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JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 351. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1913. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page III. of Cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

GUARANTEED
AT LLOYD'S

YOUR
LAST
CHANCE

TO WIN

£6

A WEEK
FOR LIFE!

See page 283.

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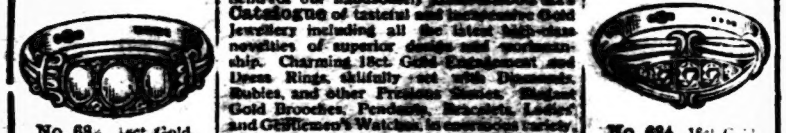

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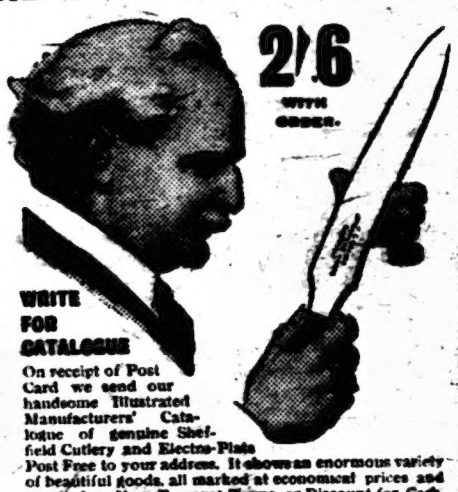

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See page 283.

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Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Bolton Wanderers	v.	Blackburn Rovers
Chelsea	v.	Manchester City.
Liverpool	v.	Derby County.
Newcastle	v.	Everton.
Notts County	v.	Sunderland.
Oldham	v.	West Bromwich.
Sheffield United	v.	Sheffield Wednesday.
Clapton Orient	v.	Bristol City.
Glossop	v.	Birmingham.
Hull City	v.	Huddersfield.
Lincoln City	v.	Notts Forest.
Stockport County	v.	Bury.
Wolverhampton W.	v.	Barnsley.
Brighton and Hove	v.	Reading.
Merthyr	v.	Crystal Palace.
Portsmouth	v.	Northampton.
Swindon	v.	Queen's Park R.
Watford	v.	Plymouth.
West Ham	v.	Norwich.

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on page, 283, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address.....

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JOHN BULL.

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Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XIV. No. 351. Week ending Saturday, February 22nd, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

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The John Bull League.

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THE PRESIDENT,

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, ESQ.,

WILL ADDRESS A PUBLIC MEETING

AT ST. ANDREW'S HALL, GLASGOW.

ON FRIDAY, 21st FEBRUARY.

Doors open 7 p.m. **ADMISSION FREE** to Unreserved Seats.

ORGAN RECITAL, 7.10 to 8 p.m.

Tickets for reserved seats, price 1s., may be obtained from the Local Secretary, Mr. H. McCONE, 122, Springburn Road, Glasgow; Messrs. D. McLEAN, 8, South Chester Street, Shettleston; D. MILLAR, 28, Govanhill Street; J. FENNER, 41a, West Muir Street, Parkhead; W. LEWIS, 13, Broad Street, Mile End; or from the General Secretary, John Bull League, George Hotel, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, upon receipt of a stamped envelope.

The entire proceeds from the sale of reserved seats go to the local funds.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

A Deathless Death.

In all our admiration for Captain Scott, we must not forget others. It may be doubted whether human history has a simpler and sublimer thing to tell of any man than the story of Captain Oates—who went out of the tent which sheltered his numbed and starving body, into the blinding blizzard, whirling and hissing across the white Antarctic wilderness, there to lie down and die so that his comrades might have his share of food and be no longer troubled with him. "I am just going out, and I may be some time," said he. The echo of the quiet voice comes back to us over the far-distant polar ice and over the roaring seas, though it is a year since he spoke—to comrades who, with him, have now their sepulchres amid the eternal snows. Whatever we may think of these polar expeditions, he faced his doom with that heroic courage which it is our pride to think is the glory of our race.

A Notable Convert.

We always thought we should not have to wait long before Mr. Bonar Law came over to the John Bull League—although he evidently does not like taking the plunge. There is a note of despair in his recent declaration that having "heard many debates where the evils of our Party system were elaborated," he had "not attached much weight to that criticism" in the past, but is "realising the dangers more to-day"—with the result that he is now satisfied that "unless a cure comes from some quarter, the present state of things cannot go on, and our Parliamentary institutions will be destroyed." Well, the "quarter" will soon be discovered!

The Curse of the Lawyers.

When the Leader of the Opposition has looked a little further into matters he will find that one of the greatest curses of the Party system has been the extraordinary annexation of power and influence by the lawyers. And in this connection we commend to his notice the statement by our friend "Vanoc," of the *Referee*, that "the grosser evils of Party spring mainly from the lawyers, whose minds . . . have lost the power of perceiving the right side of anything. The people are losing their freedom. They owe to the lawyers the loss of their liberty." With the exception of about half-a-dozen, who have had the benefit of a business training, the lawyer M.P.'s are a positive curse to the country.

Weeping Willie Laughs.

Our dear friend Will Crooks, M.P., has been lecturing on the hard work of Parliament. Now, Weeping Willie is not a humorist, and when he attempts a joke he usually "puts his foot in it." Here is one of his efforts. "There are always some very superior men who get up and say, 'What we really want is a Business Government,' but finding the House does not want any of it, those people retire and run newspapers." And then the dear old fellow, with unconscious irony, explains, a little later on, that "the great trouble in the House is to get through business." Willie should really keep to weeping.

Look at this Picture—.

In the midst of the universal praise now being bestowed upon the late Captain Scott, one's mind involuntarily turns to another naval officer of the same name, at present sitting still under the accusations, which from week to week we have hurled at him, of being a traitor, a sneak and a coward. How his cheeks must tingle with shame when he contrasts his own treacherous conduct towards a fellow, and a senior, officer, with the noble loyalty towards his comrades of the dead explorer!

"Mary's" New Dress.

Look out for *Mary Bull* in her new dress, on Friday.

Result of our FIRST Football Competition. See page 261.

A Naïve Editor.

Surely Mr. Edward Oliver must be the naïvest editor extant. He is in charge of one of the periodicals, owned by Mr. Walter Guinness, M.P., in which Mr. Lawson's attacks on certain Ministers appeared. Mr. Lawson having had to swallow sufficient of his libels to choke him, his editor followed him as a witness before the Marconi Committee. "My own view," he said, "is that it will make political journalism impossible if we may not suggest that a Minister has personal influence or favouritism or anything of that sort. If one makes a statement and has got to prove the fact, that makes political comment impossible." No wonder Mr. Oliver was derisively laughed out of the witness-chair. The notion that an editor may say what he pleases about Tom, Dick and Harry without the least thought that he may be called upon to prove his statements in a law court is too grotesque. Where *do* these amateur journalists come from?

Aerial Navigation Bill.

The War Office is so staggered at the persistent reports that foreign airships fly over our fair land in the gloaming and the dusk, that it has passed an Aerial Navigation Bill through the two legislative Houses with a celerity worthy of a more urgent cause. Anybody who now sees an airship flying about during the night is authorised either to tell a policeman, fetch his gun and bring the invader to earth with a dull and deadly thud, or notify the authorities that it is trespassing on the premises, when they will at once commence proceedings. This is all about the Aerial Navigation Bill.

Submarine Disasters.

Torpedo and submarine mishaps have occurred with alarming frequency of late. During the recent manœuvres at Spithead a torpedo boat narrowly escaped sinking through collision with a submarine, and but for the timely lowering of the collision mat a fatal disaster must have ensued. Occurrences of this kind are, perhaps, inevitable if manœuvres are to be executed under conditions similar to those of actual warfare. Nevertheless, we would urge upon the Admiralty the urgent necessity of searching inquiry in each case, so that no unnecessary risk may be run by the brave fellows who man these deadly engines of the deep.

Lord Midleton and the Territorials.

Surely it is the bitterest of bitter ironies to "Bobs" and the *Daily Mail* that the gentleman who raised in the House of Lords the question of the Territorials in their relation to the defence of the country was Viscount Midleton, who, as Mr. St. John Brodrick, was one of the most meddlesome and muddlesome War Ministers who ever muddled and messed things he didn't understand. The *Daily Mail* has only to read its own leading articles at the time of the Boer War to discover its opinion of Lord Midleton. By way of encouragement to his lordship, peradventure it will republish a few extracts from them?

A Point of Order.

"On a point of order," said Sir Arthur Markham, M.P., in the House of Commons the other night, "an hon. member here is fast asleep, and snoring so loud that I cannot hear the discussion." Markham never had any sense of humour. That snoring M.P. was doing his country's work in strict accordance with the rules of the Party system. He was there to *vote*, and until the division bell rang he was free to sleep, and, perchance, to dream of England, home and beauty.

What's in a Name?

A writer in *The Times* suggests that the style of Tacitus was affected by his name. Now Shakespeare-Bacon said that "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," although the late George Jacob Holyoake once remarked, "Call a rose a pole-cat, and see how it smells." Some names, of course, fit the work or profession of their owners like the proverbial cap; but others sound out of all keeping with their environment. Wordsworth, Hawthorne, Tennyson, are beautiful names, that in themselves suggest poetry; but Crabbe, Longfellow, Southey are grossly unpoetical; whilst Browning suggests the kitchen rather than the study. Coming nearer home, C. B. Fry, Harry Furniss, John Burns, and Lord Kitchener may suggest hot stuff; but, on the other hand, Barry Pain is quite unfitting for a laughter maker; and Edmund Payne with Gaiety. Sir Robert Ball is, perhaps, not inappropriate for an astronomer; but there is nothing of the sugar-stick about Hall Caine; and Rider Haggard does not in any way suggest his breezy romances. Silvester Horne, no doubt, sounds well; and Mr. William Archer just the name to fit his arrows of criticism; but Clement Shorter is all wrong for so voluminous a writer; and many litigants do not agree that he is really a Justice Darling. Some names suggest what their owners are not; for instance, Mr. Edmund Gosse must thank his lucky stars that that first "s" was not an "o."

The Philosopher's Stone.

The discovery, or rather rediscovery, of the fact that one element can be changed into another has been puffed as an amazing example of the ingenuity of modern scientific progress. It is really one more proof of the blind prejudice of modern scientists. For generations they have been railing superciliously at the wisdom of mediæval lore, which was the foundation of all the knowledge of to-day. They could find no mockery too bitter for the patient labours of alchemists, but now they eat their words and vaunt themselves for learning at last that the alchemists were right. We wonder how long astronomers will take to find out that astrology is true.

Think of a Number!

The doctors have had their innings. It is now the turn of the chemists. They have received instructions from the Insurance Commissioners as to the method of calculating their remuneration under the Act. Here is an example: "In the case of drugs usually purchased in small quantities and listed at prices per ounce (437·5 grains), add to the cost four-tenths of the same to get the tariff charge per ounce (480 grains). Divide this by 7 to get the tariff charge per drachm, and this again by 50 to get the tariff charge per minim." Meanwhile, we presume, the office boy will mind the shop.

No British Need Apply.

A week or two ago, a British steamer, after collision in the Channel, put into the British naval harbour of Portland. She was extensively damaged and needed immediate repair. There are in the vicinity several reputable British firms owning up-to-date and costly machinery designed for this class of work; also in the harbour British-owned salvage vessels always willing and ready to help distressed ships. In this case they were of course as ready to render assistance as in others, but they were ignored, and the British owner or his agent wired to a port 100 miles distant for a Danish salvage boat. What was the reason? Are Danish salvers cheaper?

YOUR LAST CHANCE to Win £6 a Week for Life. See page 283.

Surbiton Coroner.

Evidently Surbiton has had thrust upon it, in Dr. M. H. Taylor, a Coroner who does not quite understand the purport of his job. We will tell him what it is: It is simply to inquire into the causes of death. When, therefore, in the inquest on a man named Wall, who it was quite clear from the medical evidence had died from natural causes, he began questioning the widow in order to prove that her husband had behaved very badly to her years ago, and when, in addition, he told the jury in summing up, "It was very discreditable the deceased should apparently have lived in luxury, while his wife, who had money before her marriage, was in the workhouse," we beg to inform him that, like the flowers that bloom in the spring, tra-la, all this has nothing to do with the case. If the Coroner does not cease babbling in this way we shall presently expect him in an inquest on somebody who has died of senile decay to adduce a mass of evidence to ascertain whether ninety years ago the deceased was not turned face downwards and attacked by his angry parent, also dead, with a slipper. Though Wall had been separated from his wife, the Coroner practically ordered a witness to hand over the husband's property, apparently without knowing or caring whether or not there was a will disposing of it to somebody else. If the Coroner is usually as quick as this to give other people's things away, he will certainly sooner or later get himself into a horrible mess.

Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde.

"A Harley Street Expert," commenting on the elopement of the Rev. Albert Knight, who had previously been "a model husband, and had treated his wife with the utmost consideration and kindness," has stated that the skedaddler's conduct was probably "the direct result of a motor-car accident," which caused a fracture of the base of the skull. The "expert" goes on to say that such an injury "produces most extraordinary perversion of a man's temperament and disposition. He develops a sudden hatred of his most intimate friends, and the amazing transformation may be due to an injured and unnatural brain." When we contrast the convivial conduct of certain L.C.C. members, as we know them at social functions in Hackney and elsewhere, with the eccentricity of their votes on music-hall licences and kindred subjects, the idea occurs to us that in future they should employ more reliable chauffeurs.

Rattle Her Bones.

Recently, the Rev. Montagu Plumptre, of Stalham, was visited by the Master of the Smallburgh Union workhouse, and informed of the death of a young woman. The rev. gentleman said he would arrange with the sexton for interment, and did so. The Master neglected to send any measurements for the grave, however, and the sexton had to dig by guesswork. Not only so, but the coffin—"nothing more than a deal box in the shape of a coffin"—was sent to the churchyard in a dog-cart in charge of two men. The girl's name was not even inscribed on this box, and she went to her bourne nameless as a dog. Evidently the old Bumble as Tom Hood knew him is still alive in Smallburgh. One can almost hear him saying, "Rattle her bones over the stones, she's only a *woman* whom nobody owns."

All British (?)

We hear rumours that a certain firm of aeroplane builders, who claim that their machines are "all British built," are at the present moment employing at their works eight Frenchmen, five Dutchmen, one Belgian, one Italian, and one Russian. It is said, too, that the manager is a foreigner. Perhaps the firm in question will be good enough to help us in our perplexity.

Aberavon Mayor's Inconsequence.

In a recent issue we had a note about the selection of a Mr. Thomas to an official position in Aberavon—he being a relative of several members of the local Council. The Mayor of Aberavon now tells us: "I was chairman of the meeting, the usual course was adopted in making the appointment, and in the last round he was unanimously elected. You give a partial family history, bringing in the grandfather and grandmother, but for some reason leave out the father; permit me to fill in the gap. The father was the first working-man representative elected to the Council. . . . The grandmother referred to was a dear, able old lady, and, if alive, she would certainly seek an interview with the editor of JOHN BULL. As matters stand, an apology will meet the case." We regret we are unable to oblige the Mayor of Aberavon. If he presses us for the reason it is that, as a reply to what we said, his letter is inconsequential nonsense. We are, of course, sorry to hear of the death of the "dear, able old lady," but there are evidently a few old women left—perhaps not "able," but undeniably "dear," at any price.

Conscience and Lunacy.

We have never been able to understand why people cannot practise their own religion in their own way without interfering with the harmless hobbies of other folk. The so-called Wycliffe preachers have broken out again in Sheffield. The Church of St. Matthew in that city boasted certain ornaments, among which was an image of the Madonna, greatly prized by the faithful. A little while ago a person named Baker entered the church and smashed this image to pieces with a hammer. In explanation of this act of vandalism, he subsequently sent a telegram to the Archbishop of York, which for cool impudence would be hard to beat: "Owing to your inaction to remove idolatrous image of Mary, I have smashed same at 2.30 to-day." The miscreant will doubtless plead that he did it "for conscience sake." People with consciences like his should be regarded as lunatics and dealt with accordingly.

Is Berwick Border Bridge Cracked?

"Relative to your remarks on the alleged instability of the Forth Bridge," writes a Nottingham reader, "I would suggest you make a few inquiries concerning the safety of the Border (railway) Bridge at Berwick-on-Tweed. The structure in question is, I believe, cracked on the English side, and is passed over by trains travelling to and from Scotland." What does the chief engineer of the N.E.R. Co. say? "Cracked on the English side" is a good phrase.

"The Lauder Family."

We have received a communication from Mr. Alick Lauder in reference to our "Open Letter" to the well-known comedian, whom he describes as his brother. It will be remembered that the paragraph in question dealt with the penurious position of the Messrs. Lauder's stepfather, in regard to whom, we must say, our correspondent makes allegations which, if true (as to which we, of course, have no knowledge), certainly justify his more wealthy relatives by marriage in refusing him aid. It is sufficient to say that, according to his stepson, he is certainly *not* "The Saftest of the Family"!

Cause and Effect?

It seems that for the four weeks ending January 25th, the birth-rate at Deptford was equivalent to an annual increase of 55.2 per thousand. Either Deptford has struck a new seam of prosperity or a lot of people are trying to increase their earnings by overtime. Wonderful what people will do for thirty shillings, isn't it?

Another Startling Football Skill Competition Next Week.

More Room for Moorhouse.

If Mr. Moorhouse, the aviator, would only get up into the air and stop there, the users of His Majesty's high roads would be infinitely obliged to him. Amongst flying men he may rank high; but as a motorist he appears to us to be distinctly low. How many times his licence has been endorsed we cannot say, but we have been credibly informed that he is well into his teens. Last year he ran down a man at Wellingborough, and the other day he was convicted of causing the death of a farm labourer. Driving a powerful racing car at reckless speed along the Bristol and Gloucester road, he stampeded a pair of horses. The luckless labourer was knocked down, and the lorry he had been driving passed over him. For some inscrutable reason, the jury added to a verdict of criminal negligence a strong recommendation to mercy. A paltry fine of £20 and costs was the punishment awarded, and we hereby take leave to say that, in view of the nature of the offence, it was no punishment at all. We are driven to the conclusion that Mr. Justice Channell merely declared what he considered to be the cash value of the farm labourer's life. Unfortunately for the general public, Mr. Moorhouse is a man of wealth.

Two Backsliders.

It looks as though two brave men have fallen at York. Recently Alderman Wragge, of that city, promised a sovereign each to certain persons who had been repeatedly fined for drunkenness if they were not once convicted for that offence during the year. Mr. William Kilmartin and Mr. Charles Turner, "two of the quidders," as they call themselves, have already backslided. Mr. Turner's case is the more pathetic. After having consumed only four pints, he slipped on the pavement and sprained his ankle. When somebody took him to the hospital the house-surgeon sent him home because he was suffering chiefly from thirst, but before he arrived a policeman gathered him in. Fines of two-and-six and costs in the one case and five shillings and costs in the other, now put these two gentlemen beyond the golden pale. Wragge knew something.

Latest Canadian Boost.

The *Calgary News Telegram* publishes a remarkable boost, and among other things this: "There are lonely widows in Calgary who are shivering in poorly-heated rooms. . . . There are scores of poorly-fed and under-clad children who watch with anxiety their rapidly diminishing coal heap and wonder what will happen when all is gone, for mother said she hadn't any more money. For over a fortnight the thermometer has been ranging between 15 and 20 degrees below zero. Will you try to imagine what this means to the poor of our city?" This is Calgary, in the Land of Plenty, and the object of mentioning it is presumably to encourage British emigration. Hot-headed people should book their passages at once.

The Wrong Bull.

A man was fined ten shillings and costs the other day for having a bull in the City during prohibited hours. He should have known by this time that the only *Bull* seen and allowed everywhere is the one answering to the name of JOHN.

Dr. Parker's Curse.

Mr. T. M. Vernon, of Guiseley, near Leeds, reminds us that it was the late Dr. Parker, of the City Temple, who thundered out during the time of the Armenian massacres, "God damn the Sultan!" The strange thing is that there has been no adequate answer to prayer; not yet.

Burned Through Neglect.

It is evident that the Abertillery District Council are morally to blame for the death of little Margaret Vaughan, who was pushed or fell on a classroom fire during the dinner hour at the Tyr Graig Council School at Llanhilleth. The fireplace was without a guard, and so apparently was every other fire in the school, "though guards had been ordered since October." The Council's advocate explained at the inquest that the guards had not been delivered "on account of pressure in the iron trade"! But just as there is more than one pebble on the beach, so surely there is more than one firm ready to supply fireguards. That the Council should have suffered until January a delay of several months implies a business incapacity which is not unfairly described as neglect. If a poor woman had been concerned in similar neglect in her home, the coroner would not only have withered her with his censure, but she would probably have been prosecuted. Let the Abertillery District Council consider themselves withered with ours.

Religion and Charity.

Mr. Crew, a Tetbury (Wilts) magistrate, has sentenced Alfred Jones to 14 days' hard labour for begging at the vicarage. Next Sunday the vicar will probably be begging also, but instead of begging for food the rev. gentleman will no doubt be begging for the poor heathen in China, or the Zenana Mission in India, or the Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews in Jerusalem or Timbuctoo—and this will make all the difference.

The Bishop's Burden.

Meantime, the Bishop of London has somehow made himself personally liable for the repayment of £367 4s. 7d. tithe-rent charge in regard to the sequestered living of Great Greenford, and we have the spectacle of Lord Salisbury, Lord Kinnaird, Sir C. A. Cripps, Sir E. P. Thesiger, and other rich and aristocratic Churchmen publicly appealing for funds to relieve this £10,000-a-year prelate from his awful financial burden. We are willing to believe the Bishop is as poor as he often professes to be, but it seems strange that an enthusiastic begging committee of lords, baronets, etc., should find it necessary to appeal to the public for so paltry a sum. Could not they have made it up among them?

Home or Refuge?

We heartily approve of the movement for the establishment of hostels in various parts of London for girls and women who live at a distance from their homes. One of these has recently been opened in the New Kent Road. The chief difficulty in connection with such institutions is that unless the utmost care be taken, they may get to be regarded by the general public as refuges rather than as homes. Any such suspicion would militate fatally against their usefulness and completely frustrate the intentions of their founders. No woman should be admitted without some investigation into her antecedents. We believe the authorities are fully alive to the importance of such caution, and we wish the venture the success it deserves.

Ernest Renan on Party.

"The man who is especially preoccupied with the duties of public life does not readily forgive those who attach little importance to his party quarrels. He especially blames those who subordinate political to social questions and profess a sort of indifference for the former. In one sense he is right, for exclusive power is prejudicial to the good government of human affairs. But what progress have 'parties' been able to effect in the general morality of our species?"

Turn to page 261 for Results of our FIRST Football Competition.

Insulting the Jury.

"The verdict is yours—not mine," said the Judge to the foreman of the jury at the close of a recent trial. Not a very generous way to treat business people who give up their time at great personal sacrifice to assist in the administration of justice, and who, after all, are by the law of the country the sole judges of fact. It would be just as polite were the foreman of a jury to tell a judge at the end of his summing-up, "Your law is your own—not ours."

Well Spoken!

Nothing can well be handsomer than the latest offer of Mr. John Redmond, who has said at Waterford that he is "willing to put his northern fellow-countrymen in the very forefront of the Government of Ireland." Here, then, is a prospect of glory for Sir Edward Carson. He may be given the chance of a job in the first Redmond Cabinet.

The Week's Chestnut.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE WORKHOUSE.

MATRON (*noticing an inmate who is doing justice to a generous helping of pudding*): "Why, Murphy, what a nice lot you have, it would take me a week at least to get through that."

INMATE: "Yis, and begorrah, but it's got to last *me* twelve months."

OUR GREAT FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS.

THE £5 PER WEEK PENSION NEARLY WON—£500 DIVIDED BETWEEN THREE READERS.

The £6 Per Week Pension AND £600 Going Strong.

We are sorry that the Pension of £5 per week for life which we offered for the correct forecast of the results of 20 football matches has not been QUITE *won—the nearest approach to the full results being* 16. *This number has been sent in by three readers, and, accordingly, we divide the Cash Prize of £500 between them. They are—*

S. D. JOHNS, 65, Western Street, Swansea,
R. H. PIGOTT, 163, High Street, Eastleigh, Hants., and
H. SEWELL, 57, Queen Street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury,

to each of whom we have forwarded a cheque for £166 13s. 4d.

As regards our Second Competition, however, we are very hopeful that the Pension of £6 per week WILL *be won. First of all, there are only* 19 *matches to be dealt with, and, secondly, they present a much easier task so far as "form" is concerned. In another competition lately, as many as* 19 *correct forecasts have been given—and we see no reason why this magnificent prize of £6 per week for life—*GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S—*should not be awarded.*

Let it be remembered, moreover, that even in that event, we still give A FURTHER £600 *to the runner-up—that is to say, to the reader who sends in the next best forecast to the actual full result.*

Every reader of JOHN BULL, *therefore, who has not yet sent in a coupon, or a set of coupons, should do so* AT ONCE, *as the final coupon appears this week and the Competition closes on* FRIDAY, FEB. 28TH.

A STARTLER!

BUT NEXT WEEK WE SHALL ANNOUNCE A COMPETITION WHICH WILL PLACE NOT ONLY THE ABOVE TWO, BUT EVERYTHING ELSE EVER KNOWN, ALTOGETHER IN THE SHADE. LOOK OUT FOR IT—IT WILL BE A STARTLER!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating that: "*A singular relic was disinterred the other day in the shape of a small trough (which could be held in the hand) with a pointed spout.* IT WAS FOUND IN MISS GERY, *of Royston Court,*"

THE WESTERN MAIL (Cardiff)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following reply to a correspondent: "*Yes, but you omitted to note the rule about not* WRITING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PAPER AT ONCE,"

THE STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating (according to the Agenda of the Hove Corporation) that: "*The only* BIRTHS *registered from epidemic disease were* 1 *from Measles, and* 1 *from Enteric Fever,*"

DR. A. GRIFFITH
(Medical Officer of Health)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an article in "*The Encore,*" *that a certain stage manager* "DESCENDED *from a lofty position to a much* HIGHER *one,*"

"MR. E."
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in his tale, "*Love and the Wrong Man,*" *published in* "*My Pocket Novels,*" *that* "*Hedda* LOOKED *with* CLOSED EYES, *listening for her return,*"

MR. LEONARD CAVE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising: "*Fresh Beef, Mutton, Pork, &c., supplied* TWICE *weekly on* TUESDAYS, FRIDAYS *and* SATURDAYS,"

MR. DANIEL MARTTIL,
(13, Bryngurnos Street, Bryn),
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising: "*Please leave* WORD *at any of the Grocery Stores or send a post-card to the Furnishing Department,* WHEN A VAN WILL CALL FOR SAME,"

THE LEEDS INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD.,
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a recent wedding that: "*The* BOUQUETS *were composed of violets and* OLD PASTE SHOE BUCKLES,"

THE EVENING TIMES & ECHO (Bristol)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the local Motor-'Bus Time-Table "*Wines and Spirits* EQUAL TO NONE,"

MR. WILLIAM THOMSON (East Calder)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a notice: "*The Proprietor strongly recommends the constituents to* LOCK *their rooms* BEFORE LEAVING *the room,*"

MR. J. M. MYSOREVALLA
(Proprietor, Empire Hotel, Mysore)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. *to the sender of every* "*Biscuit*" *published. Should the same* "*Biscuit*" *be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked* "BISCUIT" *and addressed to* "*The Biscuit Editor.*"

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HOW TO MAKE HOWELLS HOWL.

A GOOD COUNTY COURT DEFENCE.

In spite of our constant warnings, we still receive many complaints concerning the methods of the notorious firm of W. R. Howell and Co., Booksellers, 42, Theobald's Road, W.C., and many other similar sharks. Howell and Co., as our readers are well aware, make a speciality of palming off books at high prices on the instalment system. The contract which their victims have to sign makes the instalments payable at the London office, thus bringing the transaction within the jurisdiction of the Clerkenwell County Court. Most of their business, however, is done in the provinces by means of touts. Many of their poor deluded customers are under twenty-one years of age—persons more mature are generally wise enough to give them a wide berth. As soon as the instalments are in arrear a summons is issued, and people who live at a distance pay rather than go to the expense of coming up to defend the case. We advise all under 21 years of age, who are summoned by this or similar firms, to give the necessary five clear days' notice to the Registrar of the Court that they were under age at the time they were induced to enter into the contract, and that they intend to rely on this as a defence. On appearing at the hearing they will win the case and obtain their expenses.

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HOW TO MAKE HOWELLS HOWL.

A GOOD COUNTY COURT DEFENCE.

In spite of our constant warnings, we still receive many complaints concerning the methods of the notorious firm of W. R. Howell and Co., Booksellers, 42, Theobald's Road, W.C., and many other similar sharks. Howell and Co., as our readers are well aware, make a speciality of palming off books at high prices on the instalment system. The contract which their victims have to sign makes the instalments payable at the London office, thus bringing the transaction within the jurisdiction of the Clerkenwell County Court. Most of their business, however, is done in the provinces by means of touts. Many of their poor deluded customers are under twenty-one years of age—persons more mature are generally wise enough to give them a wide berth. As soon as the instalments are in arrear a summons is issued, and people who live at a distance pay rather than go to the expense of coming up to defend the case. We advise all under 21 years of age, who are summoned by this or similar firms, to give the necessary five clear days' notice to the Registrar of the Court that they were under age at the time they were induced to enter into the contract, and that they intend to rely on this as a defence. On appearing at the hearing they will win the case and obtain their expenses.

£1,720 in "Bullets" Prizes Awarded Weekly.

AN OFFICER AND A—CAD.

CAPTAIN BAILEY AND THE BABY.

This is not a story of Sir Percy Scott. It is about an officer and his baby.

In April last a certified midwife, residing in the West of London, inserted an advertisement in a weekly newspaper, setting forth that she had apartments and gave qualified attention to prospective mothers. This caught the eye of the wife of a person styling himself Captain Francis Bailey. The lady paid the nurse a visit, inspected the apartments, agreed to the terms, and in due course took up her abode in the establishment and was confined of a fine bouncing baby boy. When the lady became convalescent, her husband paid her a visit, and with him he brought a friend, the Hon. Fitzroy Erskine. Everything seemed to have been satisfactory, for by the following post the Hon. Fitzroy Erskine forwarded a cheque for the fees. Except on the principle that "a pal in need is a pal indeed," we are at a loss to understand why the Honourable should pay for the Captain's baby. But let that pass. In course of time Mrs. Bailey found the restrictions of the nursing home uncongenial. She wished to get out into Society again, and as a baby boy was a drawback, arrangements were made with the nurse that it should remain with her. And it is here that the trouble commenced. The nurse, being only a poor woman, wished to have the money for the keep of the child paid weekly, and at the end of several weeks, as no cash was forthcoming, she very naturally made application for it. She found that the lady had gone to Margate, and the response to the first request for the amount was this note :—

> Enclosed is a shilling postal order. Would you mind giving it to the washerwoman and telling her to post me at once a couple of Capt. Bailey's shirts, his drawers, and two soft collars—also my handkerchiefs and two nightgowns.

The nurse naturally thought the letter very strange, so made another written application, to which she received the following reply :—

> We shall be here at any rate until Friday. How is the boy? I feel a little stronger. I expect Capt. Bailey to join me to-morrow. Will call and see you when I come back and bring you some ready.

Things went on in this manner for some weeks, and then the "gallant" officer and his wife returned to London and took up at their abode at one of the best West End hotels. Before leaving Margate, however, Mrs. Bailey wrote the foster-mother as follows, this time addressing the letter from the White Hart Hotel :—

> I am extremely surprised to see letters of yours following us all round the country. That you are owed money is true. Capt. Bailey will see you himself.

This letter certainly is an illuminating one. It gives us an insight into the character of the Captain and his wife. While they were away enjoying themselves the child was left in London with an entire stranger, who was expected to feed and clothe their offspring. Talk about the sacredness of motherhood! Why, the wild beasts have more care for their young! Let us not moralise, however, but follow closely events and correspondence after the loving parents returned to the metropolis. The nurse, having found out their address, called with the baby and interviewed the mother in the vestibule of an hotel. Mrs. Bailey was indignant that her child should be brought to her, and pleaded that the nurse would take it away again, promising her payment in full on the morrow. The morrow came, but no money. Thinking the matter had gone far enough, the nurse despatched a letter stating that she could keep the baby no longer without payment, and that if her account was not settled forthwith she would be compelled to hand the child over to the Guardians. This letter roused the Captain to action. Apparently, when it came to the possibility of his offspring having to become a pauper, he shied. He despatched the following wire from Regent Street Post Office :—

> Have you got boy at your house or not?

As a matter of fact, being a woman with a practical turn of mind, she had handed the child over to the workhouse authorities, knowing full well that they would soon find the gay couple and make them do their duty. Having no reply, Captain Bailey, seven hours after he had despatched his first message, sent this telegram from the Strand Post Office :—

> Please answer my question and unless you let me know what you have done with child at once shall go police.

The threat of the police had no terror for the nurse. As a matter of fact, she had assisted many budding constables into this wicked world, and had a nodding acquaintance with their fathers. Meanwhile, young Bill Bailey rested snugly in his little cot in the Fulham Workhouse. He was there only a week when he was called for by either the mother or her agent, after which his late foster-parent received the following letter :—

> Kindly return the baby's clothes. You have no right whatever to keep them. Unless you do so at once I am advised to go to the police. You have placed yourself in the hands of the law by trying to leave the child in a cupboard, also by exposing it to harm by taking it out without proper covering. I have the child in my possession at present, and if we hear of your going to my relations and Capt. Bailey's friends claiming money, which you have forfeited (by giving up the child), you will get into serious trouble. I may as well tell you that if you had had the child in your possession to-day you would have been paid in full, as I have now plenty of money.

Between the lines one can read what was behind the mind of this unnatural mother. How dare a nurse who was in the habit of introducing into the world potential constables, domestic servants and possible members of the rank and file, dare to persist in charging an officer's wife for keeping her child—especially when a sprig of the nobility had paid the accouchement fee! Surely the honour of such patronage should be quite sufficient! But it wasn't.

After receiving the above insulting letter, it was ascertained that Captain Bailey was a bankrupt, and we print a letter written by his trustee, Mr. R. F. W. Fincham :—

> 3, Warwick Court,
> Gray's Inn, London, W.C.
> Oct. 15, 1912.
>
> CAPTAIN FRANCIS BAILEY.
>
> I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. As the estate is in bankruptcy it is for me as Trustee to realise the bankrupt's property and assets and to distribute it amongst the creditors according to the amount due to them respectively. You would thus only be entitled to rank in common with the other creditors. Where there are no assets the creditors can receive nothing. As far as I can see at present this appears to be a case where there are no assets. I regret to say, therefore, you must look upon your account as being absolutely irrecoverable. In the unlikely event of monies coming to my hands available for distribution, notice will be given you. Meantime, you will only be wasting time and money in writing further.

Captain Bailey has never surrendered for his public examination.

In fairness to officers of the Navy, Army and Auxiliary Forces, we must state that, although we have searched the official lists, we fail to find the name of Captain Francis Bailey—and this brings us to a very serious point. The past week furnishes a contrast: Captain Scott, the upright English gentleman and hero, and this "Captain" who is allowed to roam the country and use the title in the loose way we have exposed. Surely it is time Parliament put a stop to the use of naval and military titles in so gross a fashion.

Next week's JOHN BULL will contain a little surprise for our readers. It will take the form of a gift, which, if the reader be of the gentler sex, will prove a very acceptable personal present—if of the sterner portion of humanity, his mother, sweetheart or wife will thoroughly appreciate it. It will afford a sure remedy for those little breaches of the domestic peace from which every Englishman's and Englishwoman's home, unfortunately, occasionally suffers. Order your copy early.

"IT MAY BE FOR ——!"

"RAG TRADE" CUSTOMS GET OUR "RAG" OUT.

According to the Staff Superintendent of Messrs. Harrods' Stores—who should surely know—it is customary throughout what is known under the short but expressive title of "the rag trade" during quietness of business to request the staff to take holidays for indefinite periods. However well-established it may be, and however eminent the firms who adopt it, this, in our view, is a very pernicious custom, especially as the majority of those affected by it are young and attractive women, possessed of few financial resources. Upon entering Harrods' service the young lady in question, it is stated, signed a form consenting to the engagement being terminable at a moment's notice on either side. We are not aware whether this is a common practice in drapery establishments—we sincerely hope not, for here again there is opening for grave danger to the unfortunate assistant "sacked" without opportunity for securing another situation and with probably very little or no money. In the specific case to which we are referring, the employée was, in January last, informed that quietness of business required that she should "stand off." Then on the 21st of that month came the following postponement:—"Owing to slackness of trade we will not require your services until January 27th inst., not the 22nd inst. as previously arranged." Three days later they wrote that, for the same reason, they would like her "to prolong her holidays until February 3rd." They, however, stopped her from coming back then by writing her on the 1st: "Owing to slackness of trade please prolong your holidays until further notice." This shilly-shallying naturally resulted in the girl's mother writing the firm a remonstrance, in which she stated that her daughter, who had originally worked for them as a casual hand, had, on being transferred to the permanent staff, consented to a reduction of 4s. a week in her wages on account of the poorness of business, and asserting that the young lady ought to be paid for the obligatory holidays. A demand was also made for a week's wages in lieu of notice, as the haziness of the firm's intentions regarding her resuming work justified the suspicion that they would not be able to find her employment within reasonable time. Harrods' reply was to fall back upon the "custom of the trade," though the late employée stated that any such arrangement was cancelled by the fact of the subsequent agreement to accept less wages on her position being made "permanent."

It does seem to us to be a hard case, but this individual instance is quite overshadowed by the awful consequences which might follow the full exercise by less reputable firms of the right conferred by this custom to bundle out instantly their girl employées, no matter how well behaved—possibly even on account of it, for cases have been known of immoral managers taking mean revenge upon those who rejected their advances—or to suspend them from week to week without pay, upon the mere assertion that business was slack. By the way, upon this last point it is certainly remarkable that a dividend upon Harrods' Founders' shares of 61 per cent. has just been declared for the year ended 31st January last!

BETTER THAN THE VOTE.

OUR FIRST "BULLETS" PRIZE AGAIN SECURED BY A LADY.

Our male readers will have to look to their laurels. A lady has again carried off the First Prize in our "Bullets" Competition — £350. Evidently firing "Bullets" at us is a much more profitable pastime than throwing stones at people's windows; and we shall soon find all the Suffragettes following our excellent "Examples." We have this week increased the Third Prize from £10 to £25—following on the raising of the First Prize to £400; and, altogether, the Prize List now amounts to nearly £2,000.

INSULTS ADDED TO INJURIES.

MORE "PIPS" FOR THE INSURED.

We have received two letters in which serious statements are made regarding the way in which "panel" doctors are performing their duties. The allegations have not been investigated, but we shall be pleased to place those responsible for the working of the Act in communication with the writers. The first is from a Globe Road (Mile End) man, who tells us that, on going to one of the appointed medicos and not being attended to in his turn, he remarked on the unfairness as he wanted to get home to bed; whereupon an attendant was ordered to throw him out, the doctor aiding in the ejection. In doing so, he deliberately kicked his would-be patient, who remonstrated with him for attacking a sick man The only answer was a punch in the face. A constable took the man back to the doctor, who, however, refused to help. Our correspondent asserts that similar treatment had been meted out to another man. The ill-used fellow closes a lengthy communication with the following wail: "After paying this insurance of Lloyd George's for three quarters, I have had to pay another doctor a shilling." At any rate, he apparently got, free, the bloodletting treatment which was at one time the principal part of medical science!

The second letter deals with quite another aspect of the relations between the doctors and the insured. A young woman, it states, went on January 30th to the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road, suffering from an abscess. After lancing it, they directed her to go to a "panel" doctor, who sent her back without attending to her. The hospital refused further treatment, telling her that the matter was one for the medical man—who subsequently visited her at home. His excuse for the shuttlecock process was that he was "so busy." The grave aspect of the matter is that a week elapsed between the operation and the dressing of the wound.

CENSURING A CENSOR.

HALL-MARKING A GHASTLY CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW.

If the cinematograph film entitled "At the Foot of the Scaffold," shown a day or two ago at Pyke's Theatre in Great Windmill Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, is a fair sample of those passed by the newly-appointed Film Censor, we certainly prefer such as have not been hall-marked. The item was heralded by a certificate that it was so guaranteed, though the story describes in an exaggerated way the sufferings of a young clerk who is, on circumstantial evidence, convicted of the murder of his employer, the crime in reality being committed by a burglar, who afterwards is shown wiping the gory knife. The innocent young man is arrested, tried and found guilty, and the Judge assumes the black cap, the condemned man's mother being well in the forefront and showing all the trimmings of grief. The scene is changed to Dartmoor, where the burglar (who has been convicted on another charge, after having been depicted strangling a man), makes a murderous assault upon a warder, and bolts. He is shot and takes refuge—by one of those peculiar dramatic coincidences—in the house of the innocent youth's mother, where, before dying, he of course, makes a full confession. The inmates of the house bolt off to the jail in a motor-car. The farewell scene in the condemned cell has meantime taken place, with all the trappings of woe which the ingenious, if slightly perverted, mind of the cinematograph plot-maker can imagine. But the climax is reached when the appointed time for execution arrives. A horror-stricken audience is shown the executioner pinioning the tortured man, and then the procession to the scaffold of chaplain, sheriff, warders and hangman—the latter tenderly fingering a ghastly white hood. Of course, the bearers of the confession arrive just in the nick of time to prevent a judicial murder. We cannot help feeling that this film reflects very little credit upon those who produced it, and even less upon whoever certified it as fit to be placed before women and children—if the statement that it has been so passed be indeed true.

How a STRAIGHT Competition is Run. See page 278.

A CURIOUS CASE OF CUTLERY.

HOW A SHARP FIRM CUT THEIR OWN FINGERS.

Some time ago the wife of a North London doctor had a peculiar transaction with the Furniture and Fine Art Depositories, Ltd., 48 and 50, Park Street, Upper Street, Islington, the details of which she has just laid before us. Visiting the premises to make a small purchase, she noticed a canteen of cutlery and stopped before it. The salesman observed, "That's a fine thing," and took out a knife for her inspection. She glanced at the stamp upon it and remarked: "Oh, by Mappin and Webb?"—and he answered "Yes." She was told that it was second-hand and priced at £10 10s., though its original cost had been at least £30. It was advertised in the Depositories' catalogue as "A very elaborate polished oak canteen, containing cutlery *by Mappin and Webb*—12 table knives," etc., etc. The lady's husband was duly informed of the bargain and went the next day to see it, when almost the same conversation took place, and in the end the doctor made the purchase. Subsequently, however, he had reason to doubt the truth of the description and consulted the reputed makers, to be informed that the goods were of hardly any value, as what had been acquired was merely a common canteen into which had been placed a few pieces of the well-known manufacturers' cheapest imitation ivory-handled cutlery, the remainder of the case consisting of the very poorest stuff by unknown makers. Although a considerable time had elapsed between the purchase and the discovery of its worthlessness, the doctor was determined to obtain redress. He returned the goods and demanded the refund of his money. This the Depositories valiantly resisted, pooh-poohing the allegation that there had been misdescription, boldly asserting that the wording of the catalogue was quite justifiable, and stating that they would defend any action which might be brought for the recovery of the money. County Court proceedings were accordingly instituted, and the case was within five days of hearing when—on January 28th last—the Company made an offer to pay the £10 10s. on receiving a written withdrawal of the charge of fraudulent misrepresentation, they stating that they were desirous of settling in this way because the salesman in question had broken his arm. This proposition was no sooner firmly refused than the defendants paid the amount claimed, with costs, and thus prevented any publicity. Both the doctor and his wife were, however, actuated more by a desire to warn the public against such deceptions than by the hope of pecuniary gain—as a matter of fact, owing to the irrecoverable legal expenses, they are decidedly out of pocket on the transaction, and would have been more so if the case had been fought, whatever its result.

We are informed that the Depositories took the precaution of submitting the advertisement which we have quoted to counsel, who advised that it was on the windy side of the law. The business methods of a firm requiring such guidance require no comment. By the way, the Depositories are now advertising a case of cutlery in precisely similar terms, their catalogue stating that the goods amongst which it is included have been removed from 108, St. George's Square, 10, Grosvenor Square, 25, Belgrave Square, and "The Cedars," Belmont Hill. We wonder from which of these addresses so shoddy an article emanated?

"WHO MURDERED THE GIRL SCOUT?"

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT PENDING.

There seems every likelihood of an important development at an early date in connection with this mysterious crime. In addition to the facts already within our knowledge, a large amount of new information has reached us. But, of course, in a task of this character we have to move with extreme caution. Still, at an early date, we hope to have something definite to say.

What is Your Number?

See page iii. of Cover.

"GO ON!"

A STUDY IN INSURANCE AND ASSURANCE.

About three weeks ago a Lavender Hill reader received the following mysterious postcard:—

> You may add £20 to next month's income for a few hours' service if you call on Mr. Hamilton, 85, Lancaster Road, Notting Hill Station—*not* Notting Hill Gate—at 8.30 Friday evening, 31st.—R.S.V.P.

He is quite unable to explain why he should have been thus favoured, except that towards the end of December he had answered an advertisement offering spare time employment. However, he called at the address named—a boarding-house—and there interviewed Mr. W. J. D. Hamilton, who stated that he was promoting several companies, the capital for which he intended to procure by means of life assurances, asserting that immediately policies were taken out, the underwriters—who were, it would seem, to act in a very unusual manner—would be in a position to raise money on them. For his part in the business, the insurer was to receive the £20, on condition that the ingenious Mr. Hamilton was paid a guinea for the introduction and a similar amount on completion of the business. Being under the impression so widely—but, in Mr. Hamilton's view, erroneously—held that the money could be raised on a life policy only when it had, upon the payment of several years' premiums, acquired a Surrender Value, our friend decided to get Mr. Hamilton to place the scheme in writing. He therefore sent a letter confessing his obtuseness, and asking in what way he would be guaranteed the mackerel were he to send the sprat. To this came the reply:—

> As a lay expert I think you will appreciate the following points in reply to yours of this morning:—(1) Underwriters cannot get their £12,500 profit until *after* assignments are completed and your £20 paid; (2) I cannot get my (over five thousand pounds) profit until you have first been paid; (3) Vendors cannot receive a shilling of their purchase money until after you have been paid and your assignment is in company's bonds. Need I go on? You have, therefore, the security of a number of groups, and many thousands of pounds for the entire fulfilment of this assurance plan. Is it likely that any one of us will leave anything undone which gives us these results? R.S.V.P.

Our friend, however, did *not* R.S.V.P. Perhaps he found out that assurance companies pay liberal commission on new business!

GRINDING THE FACES OF THE POOR.

A STEREOTYPED EXCUSE FOR STICKING TO THEIR MONEY.

A poor North-country woman, noticing in a newspaper an advertisement of the Royal Furnishing Company ("George Fraser and Company, Limited, Proprietors"), of 330, Essex Road, London, N., offering goods on the instalment system, sent 7s. 6d. on account of some bedding priced at £5 17s. 6d., and subsequently another shilling, which was demanded for a "handsome wadded quilt," advertised to be "included *free*." Of course, it is obvious that their customer was in very humble circumstances. She was, therefore, astonished to receive a printed letter stating that as they found from confidential enquiries that the references were not satisfactory her application for the bedding could not be entertained, and asking that goods to the value of the cash received should be selected from their catalogue. But the woman required nothing except the articles for which she had sent the money, and promptly told Frasers so. This, however, made not the slightest difference—another printed letter was despatched by them (they must, therefore, be in the habit of treating the poor in this way), stating curtly:—

> Your letter to hand, and in reply we can only repeat the offer made you in our previous letter to send you down goods to the full value of the money paid, and we are not prepared to do anything other than this.

Now, the husband of this unfortunate creature is at present away at sea, and she asks our advice. It is, that she should apply to the Magistrate at her local police court for a summons against the firm. It is probable, in view of the fact that she has four young children, that process will be issued to her free of charge.

Next Week—A Football Competition that will Break all Records.

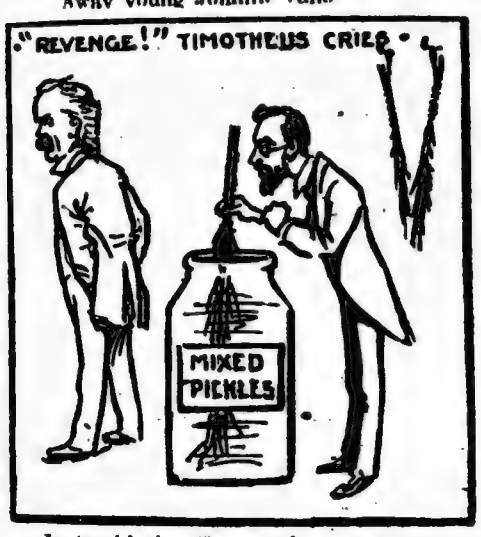
"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

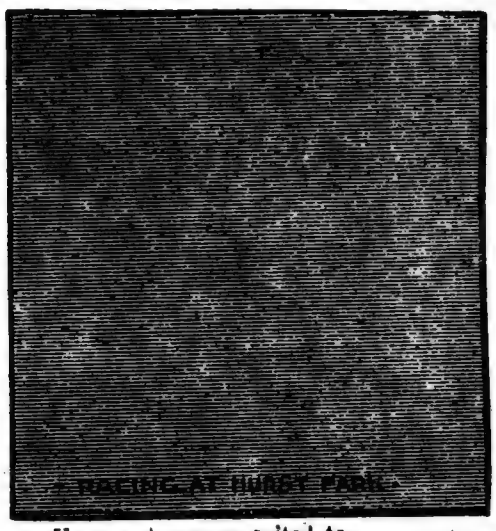
Lord Roberts, in his green old age
Recruiting ribbons dons,
And scours the country to engage
Britannia's slacker sons;
His famous march to Kandahar
Was easier achieved by far,
For at the word "Prepare for war!"
Away young Johnnie runs

Within the purlieus of the Pole
Scott and his comrades lie,
But, writ on Fame's eternal scroll,
Their names will never die;
Toll for the brave!—then let them rest;
They played the game, they gave their best
To scientific interest—
And curiosity.

Princess Victoria Louise
Prince Ernest soon will wed,
No match could more the Kaiser please,
At least, so it is said;
On them his blessing he bestows
With the correct paternal throes,—
But Kaiser William, only, knows
What scheme is in his head.



In trepidation George observes
The doughty Tim prepare
To give the treatment he deserves
And stutters "I d-don't c-care!"
"From this time forward," Healy swore,
"The Government I will ignore;
My quarry is the Chancellor,"
So he had best beware!



Upon a day more suited to
A chair and glass of grog,
Through swirling mists that hide the view
The unseen jockeys flog;
Excited backers, in a fume,
Attempt in vain to pierce the gloom,
Endeavouring to learn their doom,
Hid from them by the fog.

In Croydon, on the day of rest (?)
No street cries they allow,
With holy calm its roads are blest—
Bar the domestic row.
A recent milkman, on his rounds,
Forgetful, utters raucous sounds,
A zealous "bobbie" on him bounds—
He's minus eight bob now!

PREMIER McBRIDE, IMPERIALIST?

BRIGHT HOPES DASHED TO THE GROUND.

As Rhodes conceived and left the means for carrying out a universal education scheme for the betterment and closer union of the Anglo-Saxon peoples, so McBride was expected not only to enhance his reputation as a politician, but to earn the gratitude of present and future generations by conceiving and establishing a great land scheme.

Ent he has been Prime Minister of British Columbia for years, and has never shown the least desire, nor has any of his colleagues, to place the toiling masses on the soil. His Government and his agents in England have extensively advertised their Eldorado, giving it out broadcast that the best land in the world can be had for the nominal sum of 4s. per acre. If we are to believe our many correspondents and the testimony of those recently returned, there is no Government-owned land in any part of that country which can be secured or pre-empted at this attractive figure.

Premier McBride has had a glorious opportunity to carve out a name for himself that would live in history. No man ever had such a chance. Everything was in his favour. He has sway over the best part and, in our opinion, the only decent section of Canada. It is a twelve-month country, with a fairly even climate, neither frozen in winter nor scorched in summer, and a series of fertile valleys capable of raising products of all descriptions—and yet, compared to other parts, its agriculture is a negligible quantity.

Instead of encouraging settlers to take up land, he drives them into the cities because of the extravagant prices asked by the companies for suitable plots. The fact is, all the best land has been sold by the Government to millionaire capitalists and titled friends, and it is more than likely that the Government officials who guided their friends in the choice of the locations made valuable through the approach of railways, are themselves interested in these big land corporations.

We advise our readers who contemplate making a new home in British Columbia, not to be led away by such statements as that a quarter-section of land can be obtained for 4s. an acre, and that all that is necessary besides is the fulfilment of certain obligations during the first three years of tenancy.

At the present moment there are many Englishmen in Vancouver desirous of taking up 160 acres for mixed farming purposes on the terms advertised, but after repeated applications at the land offices in that city and also at Victoria, are politely informed that there is no land left in the desired section of the country.

"Bullets"—the STRAIGHT and Best-Judged Competition.

ACTING THE GOAT.

CHAOS AND CONFUSION AT THE MAIDA VALE RINK.

That the emblem of the Chancellor's "place of origin" should be a goat is surely significant in the light of the disclosures now made.

Many insured persons are wondering why they have not yet received a receipt-book in acknowledgment of their first or second quarter's contributions. The following facts, showing the negligent manner in which the Act is being worked by overpaid and unbusinesslike officials will, therefore, interest them, and, at the same time, form one more argument in favour of a Business Government.

In the first instance, the majority of insured persons handed in their contribution cards to various post offices, and thereby became deposit contributors, with the option of afterwards transferring to any of the approved societies. All these cards were forwarded to Maida Vale Skating Rink (a very appropriate place), which has been leased by the Commissioners, and after being numerically stamped were placed on one side for future reference. Shortly afterwards some millions of declaration forms arrived and were dealt with in a similar manner.

Then the trouble began. Attempts were made to attach each card to the corresponding declaration form. This was practically an impossibility, as neither cards nor forms had been kept in rotation. After a few weeks trying to attach them at haphazard, it was decided to sort them both into numerical order. The whole staff (about 300) commenced upon this, but when half-way through was, without any apparent reason, given orders to abandon that system and sort both cards and forms into alphabetical order. This plan, like those previously attempted, was worked for several weeks and then given up.

At this stage somebody suggested sorting according to areas (there being 125 in the United Kingdom), so the whole staff ignored all the previous attempts and commenced afresh. As was only to be expected from those in authority, this also was abandoned before completion, but not until several more weeks had been wasted.

These failures marked time until November, and as January 15th was drawing near something had to be done quickly. This took the shape of sending each contributor a form, asking when and where his stamped card had been posted, and also for the contributor's name and address exactly as written on the card—admitting in every case that the card could not be traced. Even when these replies were returned to the Commissioners they did not know how to act. Up to this period, therefore, no progress whatever could be recorded, the only result being to make matters into a worse muddle than ever. Astonishing as it may seem, it is nevertheless true that, regardless of the enormous waste of time and money, each and every one of the foregoing systems were *repeated in every detail*, and up to the present the Act is further than ever from being in anything approaching working order. The seriousness lies in the fact that the majority of contributors have not even yet received their medical tickets, and have no proof of the amount of contributions standing to their credit, and, consequently, in the case of illness, they would be unable to obtain any monetary benefit.

OUR COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others.

LONDON.—Messrs. Collinson and Osgood, "Mason's Arms," Harrow Road, 2s. 2d.; Mr. H. Pullen, "Churchill Arms," Church Street, Kensington, 1s. 8d., Mr. M. Pollack, "Carpenters' Arms," Dante Road, Newington Butts, 1s. 6d.; Mr. W. E. G. Bell, "Castle," 37, City Road. 1s. Mr P. Brinkman, "Bricklayers' Arms," Charlotte Street, 1s.; Mr. G. Sanders, 54 Curtain Road, E.C., 1s.; Mrs. Jessard, "Baptist's Head," St. John's Lane, Smithfield, 3s. 1d.; Mr. H. Morgan, 226, High Street, Shoreditch, 1s. 6d.; Mr. H. Rogerson, 10, King Street, Portman Square, 1s.; Mr. A McDonald "Crown and Appletree," 37, Berwick Street, 1s 1d.: Mr. A Bellatti, "The Sadlers," Swallow Street, W., 1s.; Mr. T. W. Porter, 714, Holloway Road, 1s. 6d.; Mr. F. Edgeley, 491, Grove Green Road, Leytonstone, 1s.

LEICESTER.—Mr. P. Bedford. 153, Upper Kent Street, 1s.: Mr W Boulton. 256 Humberstone Road, 1s. 10d.

GLASGOW.—Mr. J. Bolesworth. 353, Paisley Road, 1s. 8d.; Mr. J. Phoenix, 694, Argyle Street, 1s. 8d.; Mr. W Turner, 83, Garscube Road, 3s. 6d.

Total £2 4s. 7½d., of which we have allocated £1 4s. 7½d. to CCXXIII., and £1 to CCXXXIII.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXXXIV.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

"GOING! GOING!"—AN ENGLISHMAN'S HOME!!

Our investigator writes:—

Sandwiched behind palatial mansions and shops stocked with valuable goods, in the West of London, is a slum, in which lives the family I sought. This "Englishman's home" is one room, situated over a baker's shop. Groping my way upstairs, on the second floor I found the family, consisting of husband, wife and three children—all boys, ages 4, 5, and 8 years respectively. The poor wife—who admitted me—told me that, although not more than 35 years of age, if it were not for her children death would be a welcome visitor. And no wonder. As a matter of fact, the "Man with the Scythe" had recently been in her room and taken away the youngest child, aged 3. Her husband was out to work—the first he had done for three weeks—not that he won't work, but simply because he could not get it. He is what may be called a handy labourer, used to painting, decorating and plumbing. I glanced out of the window into the street. Opposite was an undertaker's shop, with a workman in full swing making a coffin in view of passers-by. The premises on either side were those of a chemist and a fried-fish monger. Passing traffic and a barrel organ, with an Italian grinding away a rag-time tune, made up a typical picture of London slum life. "You get plenty of noise here," I said to the mother, and her reply was that she welcomed it, for in the night when everything was quiet she really thought she would "go silly." It was obvious that worry was fast pulling the woman down to the grave. Turning from the uninspiring exterior, I took stock of the furniture—a bedstead and mattress, with one blanket for covering, a rickety table in the centre of the carpetless room, and two chairs minus backs. As regards food, there was a loaf and a half of bread, half a tin of condensed milk, and a little margarine. The two eldest boys were at school, the youngest one was playing soldiers by himself. "What are you going to be when you are a man?" I asked. "A soldier," he said. "To fight the Germans?" I enquired, and he nodded his little head. I asked the baby boy's mother for her rent-book, and saw that she owed for eight weeks. The next exhibits I inspected were pawntickets—the father's, mother's and children's clothes had had to be parted with to provide food. And for why? Because the bread-winner could not get regular work! For years he has been able to get but very casual employment, when working full time—which very rarely happens—earning no more than £1 a week, his average being but about 15s. Any help, in the form of better employment for the father, clothes or food, or money to purchase these necessaries and pay the rent—thus preventing their being turned into the street—will come as an unspeakable blessing to these poor folk.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXVI.—Parcel.

CCXXVIII.—Parcel.

CCXXXI.—Parcel; M. G., 2s.; "Wilhelmina Muggins," 10s. 6d.; "Jack," 1s.; "Molly," 1s.; "Tropical," 2s. 6d.

CCXXXII.—"Eric," 2s.; J. L., 1s.; "Nell, U.S.," 2s. 6d.; M. S., 2s. 6d.; "A Worker," 2s.; T. E. (Norfolk), 5s.; "Heysham," 6s.; "Bachelor," 5s.; J. H. N., 2s.; M. E. H., 10s.; "Kiddie," 6d.; F. J. P., 2s. 6d.; W. H. C., 1s.; "Ex-Marine," 2s.; "Do Unto Others," 2s.; "Bill," 1s.; "G. B.," 1s.; F. and G. A., 2s.; "Tropical," 2s. 6d.; M., 1s.; "Leslie and Frankie," 2s. 6d.; 3 parcels.

CCXXXIII.—2 parcels; "Ivy Mary," 1s.; "An Admirer," 10s. 6d.; A. J. E. S., 5s. 7d.; "Frenchman," 20s.; "Wilhelmina Muggins," 10s. 6d.; Anon., 3s. 6d.; "Eric," 1s.; "Auld Reekie," 2s. 6d.; "Highbury," 2s. 6d.; E. S. M., 10s.; "Celibate," 2s.; "Alas," 2s. 6d.; D. R., 5s.; N. C., 1s.; "Daddy," 1s.; N. M. L., 1s.; S. H., 1s.; M. S., 2s. 6d.; P. P. O. and A. M., 2s.; "Elstow," 1s.; L. A. W., 1s.; "For Baby's Sake," 2s. 6d.

Our Football Pension Prize of £6 a Week for Life is GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S.

FREE INFORMATION HOW TO DEVELOP YOUR MONEY EARNING POWER.

How Over 200,000 Readers Have Developed Increased Mental Power and Business Capacity.

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Priceless information concerning "The 12 Most Wonderful Lessons in the World" is available for readers to-day free of cost.

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Men or women who aspire to Business, Professional or Social Success, without utilising the aid of the Mental Training afforded by the Pelman School of the Mind, are neglecting the greatest assistance the modern world offers.

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PERCEPTION .....
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CONCENTRATION .....
DETERMINATION .....
ORGANISING POWER .....
DIRECTIVE ABILITY .....
COMPREHENSION .....
COMPARISON .....
DECISION .....
INITIATIVE .....
APPLICATION .....
ENERGY .....
DRIVING FORCE .....
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After a course of Pelman Training you are able to do more than twice the work you did before in the same time, and to do it better, too, and with greater ease and interest.

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These will be sent together with information showing how you can have this wonderful course for a small inclusive fee.

It will pay you over and over again in the increased income brought in by your increased skill and capacity.

The following are the titles of these 12 lessons:—

Lesson I.—The Three Elements of Success.
Lesson II.—The Creation of Ambition.
Lesson III.—Knowledge and the Senses.
Lesson IV.—Observation as a Business Asset.
Lesson V.—Attention, Concentration, and Interest.
Lesson VI.—Ideation; or, How to Originate Ideas.
Lesson VII.—Originality in Aims and Methods.
Lesson VIII.—The Influence of Mind on Mind.
Lesson IX.—A Business Man's Mind and Memory.
Lesson X.—Training the Mind for Study.
Lesson XI.—Auto-suggestion.
Lesson XII.—Will Power.

The Pelman System is essentially practical. You can at once put it to profitable use in your own particular occupation. Those who practise it find the income-earning powers of their minds steadily—and in many cases rapidly—increasing as a direct consequence.

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Hundreds of Pelman Students have written to say that as the result of practising the Pelman lessons they have gained higher positions in life. A most striking collection of letters will be forwarded you gratis and post free. You have only to follow the Pelman System to be able to record similar experiences for yourself.

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Thus, if you are a barrister, you increase that power of rapid thinking, that quick eye for the weak spot in an opponent's case, that readiness to take instant advantage of the slightest opportunity, that "lawyer's memory" which remembers every detail of the case in hand, and that power of lucid and persuasive speech, all of which are necessary to forensic success.

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Start for Success To-day.

The minister, politician, lecturer, public speaker finds himself able to speak fluently and convincingly without notes.

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Don't get in a rut or groove. Don't get lost in the slough of Mediocrity, Little Power, and Small Salaries. Boldly face the summit and mount the hill of Success. Follow the path that over 200,000 Pelman students have already trod, and you will gain your ambition. But now is the time to begin. Others are beginning now—don't let them get ahead of you. To-day you can obtain free of all cost, postal or otherwise:—

1. Full particulars of the 12 "Most Wonderful Lessons in the World," and how you can learn them at a cost easily within your reach, and which will be returned to you in increased earning-power within a few weeks.

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Call, or send coupon or post-card to-day to the Secretary, the Pelman School of the Mind, 15, Wenham House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.

By return you will receive this triple gift, gratis and post free, to enable you to increase your mental efficiency for Business or Social success and to realise your ambition.

FREE TO READERS OF "JOHN BULL."

100,000 FREE MAGAZINES.

To the Secretary,
THE PELMAN SCHOOL OF THE MIND,
15, Wenham House,
Bloomsbury St., London, W.C.

Kindly forward, gratis and post free, to the following address, as offered in this week's JOHN BULL:—

1.—Full particulars of the 12 Most Wonderful Lessons in the World, with "Experiences" of men and women who have achieved success through their aid. 2.—Free Copy of the new magazine *Brain-Power & Mental Efficiency*. 3.—Free Copy of the magazine *Mind and Memory*.

The sending of this coupon involves no charge or obligation.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

"KOSHER MEAT."

HOW JEWS ARE SAID TO KILL THEIR BEASTS.

We have received the following letter from an Edinburgh reader, who, it will be seen, is himself a butcher:—

I shall be sorry if you allow the subject to drop with the nonsense your Liverpool reader writes about instantaneous death when the throat is cut.

Your first correspondent went too far in calling the Rabbi a scoundrel, but his other remarks have truth in them, which is more than can be said about what the second writer says.

Being a butcher, I have had many opportunities of seeing the Rabbi killing, and I can quite understand the sense in which the word "scoundrel" was used, and so will you if you only go and see the act for yourself. You will also see the bullock dying what the Liverpool reader calls an "instantaneous death."

The beast is brought in roped by the neck, and drawn to a ring in the wall as if for slaughter in the ordinary way; a short rope with a loop at the end is passed round each of three of its feet, the noose end of a longer rope is put round the fourth foot, the loose end then being passed through the loops and fastened to the crane, which is heaved up, thus pulling the feet from the struggling beast, and turning it completely upside down. The beast's face or forehead is now flat on the ground; the chin is held firmly down, which arches and tightens the neck, making it much easier to cut. The Rabbi then gives it one cut, which cuts windpipe, weasand, the two main arteries, and all veins that lie in the path of the knife. The beast now *bleeds to death, during which time it has all its senses*, which you must readily understand, seeing that neither the brain nor the spinal cord has been damaged in any way.

The man who can stand and see the struggles of that beast and hear it trying to breathe through a severed windpipe, and say it is suffering no pain, must have strange ideas about what cruelty is.

About the other method of killing, I admit that the pole-axe in the hands of some beginners causes cruelty, but I also say that the pole-axe in the hands of a practical man gives the animal as painless a death as man can give it. None of the later invented cattle-killers surpasses it in any way.

"A WAY THEY HAVE IN THE ARMY."

WHY A QUARTERMASTER "WALKED THE PLANK."

In view of the present state of inefficiency of the "Terriers," Col. Seely would do well to overhaul the 6th Battalion Essex Regiment. For some time this body was without a Quartermaster, and when one was appointed he found things in a state of chaos. There were no ledgers or regimental records—in fact, nothing beyond an accumulation of verminous clothing. He was unable to obtain a proper handing over of the effects, being merely told to get matters in order as soon as possible. Four hundred men were without bayonets, and over eight hundred were minus rifle-slings. To supply these vital deficiencies, the new Quartermaster purchased cast stores; the Armourer-Sergeant soon made short work of the Government stamp placed upon the condemned articles, being paid £5 13s. 4d. for doing the obliteration. At this juncture, a new Adjutant came on the scene and one of his first acts was to get rid of the Quartermaster. The new "broom" was not very long in finding out that the regiment was equipped like a lot of stage supers, and the Commanding Officer, when complaint was made to him, placed the whole blame on the shoulders of the Quartermaster. The responsibility was, however, repudiated by that functionary, who, it should be mentioned, had thirty years' service to his credit—and who demanded a Court of Inquiry. This has been refused, and he has been forced to retire. But, surely, the case is not one which should be hushed up in this way? An official inquiry into the whole of the dirty business should be held at once. To enable the authorities to do so, we refrain from going into further matters affecting the Battalion, fully realising that the Commanding Officer, the Adjutant, and the Sergeant-Major may have "a story to tell-o." All the parties concerned should certainly fight out the question of responsibility, for the country has not only been robbed of arms and equipment, but a thousand British soldiers have been placed *hors de combat*.

IN THE CONSULTING ROOM OF DR. BULL.

By WALTER MOORE.

V.—MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL.

[VOICES OUTSIDE THE CONSULTING ROOM DOOR: "How dare you cross my bows, you son of a gun swab?"—"*But the Doctor's engaged, sir. I will announce you if you will give me your name.*"—"Haven't you got eyes in your crow's nest, you bilge spawn? I'm the First Lord of the Admiralty, and if ye don't sheer off to starboard I'll run you down and put you in irons for insubordination!" VIOLENT COMMOTION.]

What's this? . . . What's all this? . . . How *dare* you burst into my consulting room in this outrageous fashion, sir . . . I'll not have it! . . . If you were Winston Churchill, Sir Percy Scott, and Lord Charles Beresford all rolled into one, I'd not have it! . . . No, sir! . . .

Well, well . . . sit down, then. . . . Yes, yes; there's sometimes an excuse for a man when he's not feeling well. . . . I accept your apology. . . . Say no more. . . . Now, what's the trouble? . . . Pains amidships? . . . Come, come; kindly abstain from using nautical expressions. . . . Now, what do you mean by amidships? And is the pain aft or for'ard? . . . Dear, dear! I'm dropping into your ridiculous lingo myself! . . . I see, I see. . . . The stomach. . . . Now, what have you been eating . . . anything likely to disagree with you? . . . Ah! . . . Hum! . . . That might do it. . . . German sausage is not properly adapted to British digestive organs. . . . I see. . . . Out of courtesy. . . . Yes, yes. . . . Of course, as you were dining with Admiral Tirpitz, you naturally . . . er, quite so . . . couldn't very well get out of it. . . . But you must have eaten very heartily; what? . . . You consumed sixteen and the Admiral made himself responsible for ten! . . . You astonish me! . . . Besides, taking the Admiral's age into consideration, the proportions were quite wrong. . . . *Three* for yourself and *one* for the Admiral would have been ample; and by restricting yourself to that number you would not have put your constitution, British though it be, into danger. . . . Oh, yes; make no mistake about that; there is always serious danger *where the stomach is concerned*. . .

Now, what's your next complaint? . . . An uncomfortable feeling about the head. . . . Yes, yes. . . . I noticed at once that there was a certain abnormal development . . . incipient elephantiasis of the cerebrum, we should call it at Bart's. . . . Yes. . . . You experience difficulty in getting hats to fit you. . . . Either too large or two small, eh? . . . Quite so. . . . Yes; it makes one look ridiculous whichever way it is, doesn't it? . . . Now, let me consider a moment. . . . What can be the cause of this? . . . Perhaps you visit the cinematograph theatres too often? . . . Yes; quite so. . . . The strain on the eyes, you know. . . . especially if you are trying to pick out a particular face or figure. . . . Precisely; but you really must take your cinema more moderately else—well, what is now merely incipient and mildly chronic might become acute, in which case your head would—well, go off "pop!" . . .

Yes, yes; I'll write you a prescription presently. . . . And that—ha, ha!—that reminds me of a funny remark a friend of mine made the other day. . . . I had mentioned that several of your colleagues, as well as the Leader of the Opposition, had consulted me lately, and that I gave them each a prescription. . . . "I wish to heaven," cried my friend," that someone could, and would, *proscribe* them, and all the rest of the Party hacks into the bargain!" . . . Ha, ha! . . . Funny; wasn't it? . . .

But, now; as regards yourself, you must keep yourself quiet—yes, yes—nothing like regularity. . . . Can't be thoroughly healthy without. . . . Well, I don't think you can improve on the old-fashioned, simple aperients, such as rhubarb, Gregory powder, etc. . . . . A little of either—and *no* German sausage, remember! . . . Now, just take this, and get it made up at any chemist's.

THE PRESCRIPTION.

Paraffin, 1 pint.
Essence of Cineman, 2 ozs.
Castor Oil, 3 ozs.

Mix, and rub a little round the inside of your hat every morning before putting it on.

A Gift for Every Reader with Next Week's "John Bull."

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GIANT SWEET PEAS

AWARDED OVER 160 GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS

THE FINEST BLOOMS IN THE WORLD.

THAT BLOSSOM ON THE SWEET PEA PLANT ARE GROWN FROM GENUINE ECKFORD'S SEEDS.

Sweet Peas are requisite to the small, medium or large garden, and if you wish to have colour, effect, prize specimens, and full plants, then send to **Eckford's** for your seeds. **Larger flowers, longer stems, brighter colours, and a profusion of bloom will be the result of growing Eckford's Seeds.**

In choosing your Collection, remember that **Eckford's Sweet Peas** are all **strong growers,** and every plant needs to be placed at least six inches apart, so that, while you may buy more seed for the money, remember, a cheaper collection may not be more profitable. There is a great deal of **Rubbish** being sold nowadays **as Eckford's Sweet Peas,** but they are not **Eckford's** unless **direct from Wem.** If you have bought Sweet Peas as **Eckford's** elsewhere, you have not got **Eckford's.** We have **many thousands of customers in every part of the globe,** and they are all enthusiastic about **Eckford's Seeds.**

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GUSTAV HAMEL.—This is a magnificent giant and free flowering variety of a rich rose overlaid with salmon. It is beautifully waved and four-flowered, possessing a bold upright standard. In shape it is just what a waved Sweet Pea ought to be. The plant is a strong grower, needing plenty of room. In sealed packets, 5 seeds **1/3**; 10, **2/3.**

CLEMATIS (Grandiflora Type).—This beautiful self is quite an advance in colour, being best described as a "Clematis Jackmanii" blue. As a garden variety it is most attractive, the vines being literally clothed with lovely blue flowers which are generally borne in threes on long, strong stems. In sealed packets, 5 seeds, **6d.**; 10, **1/-**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOR 1913.

EXHIBITORS' "C" COLLECTION.
24 charming **Giant Waved** varieties for exhibition or any purpose, 10 seeds of each, as follows:—

Apple Blossom (waved).
Apricot, apricot. [pink.
Asta Ohn, lavender.
Captain of the Blues (waved) blue.
Cerise, cerise.
Clara Curtis, primrose.
Constance Oliver, creamy-pink.
Countess Spencer, pink.
Dodwell F. Browne crimson. [mauve.
Dorothy Tennant (Wd.).
Etta Dyke, white.
Evelyn Hemus, creamy-pink
Flora Norton (Waved), blue.
Lady Althorpe, white.
Menie Christie, mauve.
Maud Holmes, crimson.
Mrs. Chas. Mander, mauve. [pink.
Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes, **Mrs. Henry Bell,** apricot.
Mrs. W. King, rose.
Othello (Waved) maroon.
Paradise Ivory, ivory-pk.
Queen Victoria (Waved), pale primrose.
Senator (Waved), chocolate stripe.

Also 10 seeds each of **Pink Pearl,** pink; **Phenomenal,** blue, picotee edge; **Frank Dolby,** lavender; and **Helen Lewis,** salmon, gratis. **Price 5s. 6d., post free for cash.**

VILLA "B" COLLECTION.
24 choice varieties, a splendid range of colour for garden effect and cutting, 50 seeds of each as follows:

Agnes Eckford, pink.
A. J. Cook (slightly Waved), lavender.
Black Knight, maroon.
Captain of the Blues, blue.
Dorothy Eckford, white.
Frank Dolby (slightly Wv.), lavender.
Gladys Unwin (slightly waved), pink. [slmn.
Helen Lewis, (Wvd.),
Mrs. Charles Mander (Wvd.), maure.
Phenomenal (slightly Wv.), blue-picotee edge.
Miss Willmott, salmon.
Pink Pearl (slgtly. Wvd.), pink.
Helen Pierce, blue flake.
Henry Eckford, coral.
Horace Wright, dark blue.
James Grieve, cream.
King Edward VII., crim.
Lord Nelson, blue.
Luminosa, coral.
Mid Blue, blue.
Queen Alexandra, scarlt.
Queen of Spain, pink.
Sybil Eckford, creamy-blush.
Venus Imp., creamy-pink.

Also 10 seeds each of **Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes** (Waved), pink; and **Countess Spencer** (Waved), pink, gratis. **Price 5s. 6d., post free for cash.**

EXHIBITORS' "D" COLLECTION.
12 charming **Giant Waved** varieties, splendid for exhibition or any purpose, 10 seeds of each, as follows:—

Asta Ohn, lavender.
Countess Spencer, pink.
Dodwell F. Browne, crimson. [mauve
Dorothy Tennant (Wd.).
Etta Dyke, white.
Evelyn Hemus, cream. pk.
Flora Norton (Wv.), blue.
Mrs. W. King, rose. [pk.
Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes,
Mrs. Henry Bell, apricot.
Othello (Waved), maroon.
Paradise Ivory, ivory pink.

Also 10 seeds of each of **Cerise,** cerise; and **Helen Lewis,** salmon, gratis. **Price 2s. 6d., post free for cash.**

VILLA "C" COLLECTION.
12 choice varieties, suitable for garden effect and cutting, 50 seeds of each, as follows:—

Agnes Eckford, pink.
A. J. Cook (slightly Waved), lavender.
Black Knight (maroon).
Dorothy Eckford, white.
Frank Dolby (slightly Wv.), lavender.
Helen Lewis (Wd.) slmn.
Henry Eckford, coral.
Lord Nelson, blue.
Mrs. Collier, pale pinrose.
Phenomenal (sltly. Wv.), blue-picotee edge. [pink.
Pink Pearl (sltly. Wvd.),
Queen Alexandra, scarlt.

Also 5 seeds of each of **Countess Spencer** (Waved), pink; and **Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes** (Waved), pink, gratis. **Price 2s. 6d., post free for cash.**

HALF VILLA "B" COLLECTION.
24 choice varieties. The same as the **VILLA "B"** exactly, only 25 seeds of each variety. Also 5 seeds of each of **Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes** (Waved), pink, and **Countess Spencer** (Waved), pink, gratis **Price 3s., post free for cash.**

VILLA "D" COLLECTION.
12 choice varieties. The same as the **VILLA "C"** exactly, only 25 seeds of each. Also 5 seeds of each of **Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes** (Wvd.), pink, and **Countess Spencer** (Wd.), pink, gratis **Price 1s 6d**

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Eckford's Ideal Collection of Vegetable Seeds. Carriage paid for Cash.

This Special Collection of Vegetable Seeds is put up for the purpose of letting everybody test for themselves ECKFORD'S PURE and HIGH-CLASS SEEDS. The quantities are sufficient for ordinary Gardens, Allotments, etc, and contain the following: Four half-pints of Eckford's Pedigree Culinary Peas for succession; half-pints each of Broad Beans, Dwarf French Beans and Scarlet Runners; and liberal packets of the following small Seeds: Beet, Borecole, Broccoli (three varieties—early, medium, and late), Brussels Sprouts, Early Cabbage, Pickling Cabbage, Savoy, Carrot, Early Cauliflower, Celery, Cress, Ridge Cucumber, Lettuce (two varieties), Mustard, Onions (two varieties), Parsley, Parsnip, Radish, Tomato, Garden Turnip, and Vegetable Marrow. The above are all excellent kinds—fine for exhibition. If pints of Peas and Beans are required instead of half-pints, the price of the Collection will be **9/-** carriage paid. *We include free a specially written Booklet on Vegetable Culture for the Amateur.* For places abroad, the Ideal Collection will be **8/6** and **11/-** respectively, post free for cash. **Will Customers kindly note that we cannot alter this Collection.**

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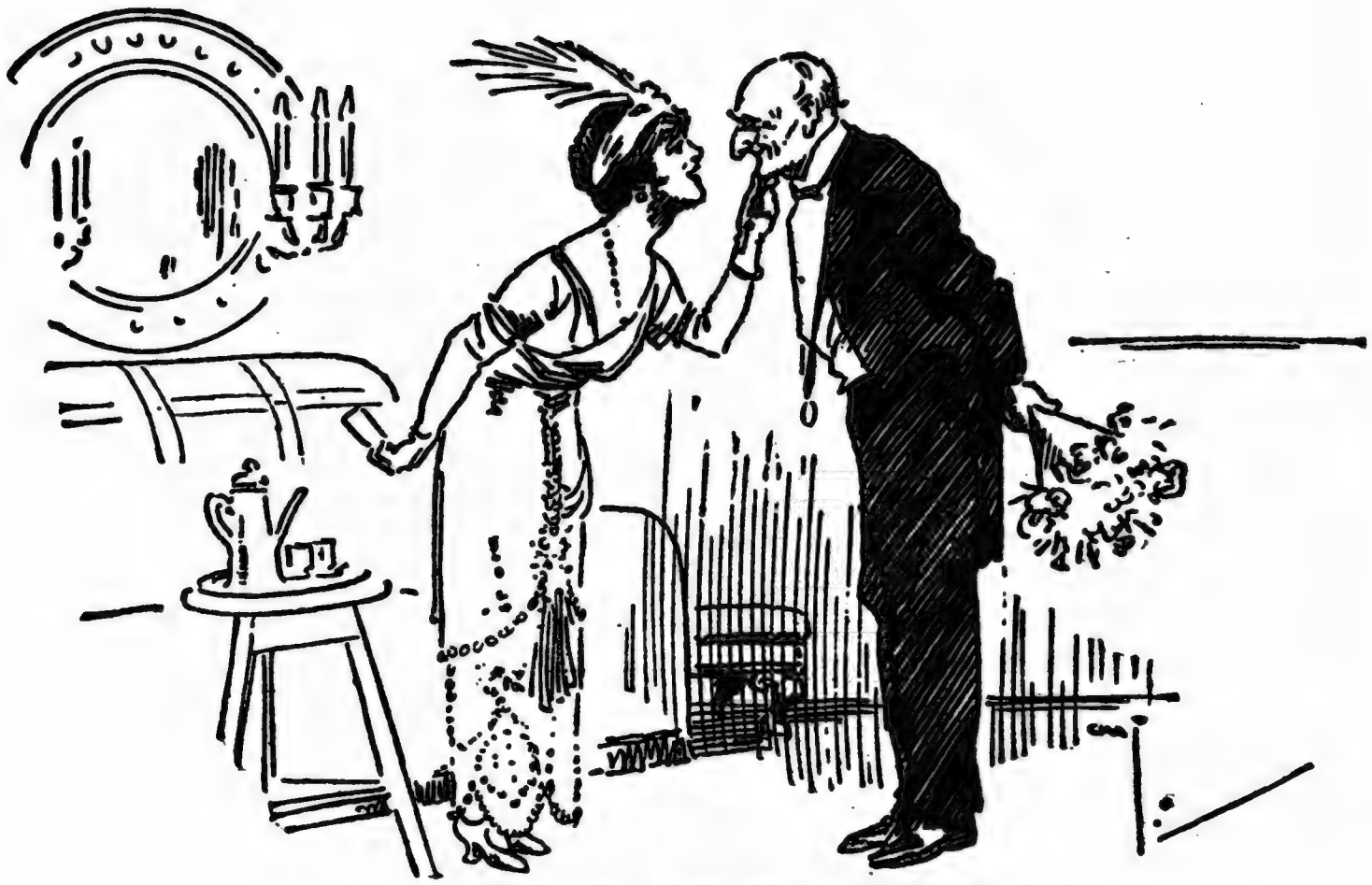

"A LITTLE GAME FOR MONEY."—28 plays 82.

SAD STORIES.

By Leopold Spero.

An art dealer, who was used to supply customers with any old thing they wanted, was injudicious enough to sell a wrong Dresden group to a notorious connoisseur, who had come to his shop in disguise. The connoisseur returned next day with the dud in a brown paper parcel. "Look here," he said. "Why d'you do this sort of thing to me?" and he removed his false chin growth. The knock-out expert surveyed him for a moment, and then burst into tears. "I'd never have thought it of you, Mister Binks," he said, as he paid back the price. "I thought you were an honest man in that get-up, and you were an art critic all the time." And the connoisseur, pocketing the cheque, was constrained to admit that birds of a feather should not wear whiskers.

A younger son, having had a row with the old man, went to Canada, and returned after seven years with a revised ethical code, a shoddy suit, and a fat banking account. He was greeted coldly by the family, who went by appearances. "I suppose you've been earning an honest living?" asked his dad. "It can't be done in Canada," said the youth. Whereat all present sniffed: except the younger sister, who was diplomatic, despite the fall in the temperature. "Are these yours, Bob, dear?" said she, picking up a fat roll of notes from the floor, while the family gaped. "They are," said the wanderer, "and I've plenty more where they came from." "Come to my arms, my poor forgiven son," exclaimed papa. "I'm afraid I ought not to," said the prodigal. "I'm stuffed full of the wages of sin, and your delicate noses could never stand the smell." And he went back to Canada next day with his banknotes and his younger sister. Which shows how advisable it is to keep a fatted calf on the premises when you're dealing with prodigals.

THE MAN AND HIS CREED.

VIII.—THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

I believe in the future of Germany.

I believe I am the chosen instrument of God to make it great.

I believe I am destined to put down our mighty neighbour from her seat.

I believe in the Mailed Fist when dealing with semi-barbarous peoples.

I believe in a more insidious policy when treating with the European Powers.

I believe in quietly preparing for the annexation of Belgium and Holland.

I believe in coming to a temporary agreement with England as regards the limitation of armaments.

I believe my good neighbour and ally, Austria, will go on building *Dreadnoughts* all the same.

I believe the Austrian fleet will be at my disposal.

I believe I have hoodwinked England into agreeing to the proportion of 16 to 10.

I believe in excluding air-craft from such agreement.

I believe she has failed to observe the aerial preparations I am making in Heligoland.

I believe I have successfully duped Winston Churchill.

I believe the *Daily News and Leader* is my very good friend.

I believe the only power in England that I have to dread is a scurrilous paper called John Bull.

I believe in purchasing all the best Welsh steam coal I can lay my hands on, in preparation for The Day.

I believe in putting off The Day as long as possible, so as to lull England into a false sense of security.

I believe that I shall go down to history as William, King of Prussia, Emperor of Germany, Belgium and Holland, King of Great Britain and Ireland, and of all the British Dominions beyond the Seas.

£400 for just Two or Three Words. See page 290.

Are you a 30/- a Week Man?

Sir Hiram Maxim's Startling accusations—Why are there so few men worth £5 a week?

THAT great inventor and keen business man, Sir Hiram Maxim, in a striking series of letters to the *Daily Express*, makes some startling accusations against the modern business man. He says in effect that he, as an employer, can find thousands of men to fill jobs at 30s. a week, but that these men never improve, never become worthy of the positions at £5 a week.

And he says this is because the 30s. a week man never troubles to get any real knowledge of business. He does just what he *has* to do, and no more. But the serious part of the matter is that Sir Hiram is right.

Now once you admit that Sir Hiram Maxim is right, and that the 30s. a week man never rises because he never gets a real knowledge of his work, you should carry the principle a little further. You may smile at the shop assistant whom he describes who sold bottles of gum for years, and never noticed that they were labelled "mucilage," but he provides an object lesson to you, and there is one question you should ask yourself very seriously. Its answer may make a great difference to you if you mean to succeed.

In six words this question is:—

What Do You Know About Business?

At first sight you may be inclined to pooh-pooh the question, but unless you are a rare and brilliant exception you will probably own, after a mortifying self-examination, that it is precious little indeed of sound Business knowledge that you really know—confidently and surely enough to bank on.

Yet, without this Business knowledge, your chances of doing well for yourself in the business world are very poor ones indeed. With it, there is

No Position You Cannot Aspire to.

Without it you run the risk of being a 30s. a week man all your life, or, if not that, at any rate, a near approach to one.

Now what do *you* know about Business?

For instance, do you understand Bookkeeping thoroughly? Could you draw up a balance-sheet? Do you understand exactly how the financial position of a tradesman or a firm is determined from his books? Do you understand profit and loss account? Do you know when recovery of book debts is barred?

Do you know much about the Income-Tax? Do you know Company Law? Do you know the cost of the formation of a Company? The methods of amalgamation? Do you understand the conversion of shares into stock? Do you understand Compulsory Winding-up? Do you know all about County Court Business, Judgments, etc.?

Do you know how to start a Business? How to secure its credit, and to buy its equipment? How to organise its departments, build up its reputation, collect its debts, rake in its profits?

Yet these matters are Business knowledge. And if you want to make money in business you must either know them or know where you can get authoritative and complete and up-to-date information concerning them and concerning the thousand and one points of doubt or difficulty that beset the business man in the course of his business day.

Now What Are You to do?

You must get the "Business Encyclopædia."

You cannot do without it, whether you are an ambitious young man on the threshold of your commercial life or a mature business man who dreads that he may be crowded out of the Business fight owing to the present-day stress of competition. It gives you new ideas, and it enables you to put into successful practice your own ideas.

The subjects dealt with in the "Business Encyclopædia" include every phase of business in full technical detail. The legal documents most commonly needed are shown in actual facsimile insetted into the book. Card index and accounting systems for every business are illustrated and described in detail.

The "Business Encyclopædia," in short, supplies an experience so wide that no one man could ever possess it by any other means. The one great essential of modern business success is knowledge, the knowledge that the "Encyclopædia" has been designed to supply.

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Whatever your business or position, the "Business Encyclopædia" can help you as nothing else can. To the junior it offers a knowledge far wider and far surer than any his Manager can have; to the Manager, it lends knowledge and that equally valuable asset, confidence in his decisions.

If you are doubtful as to how the "Business Encyclopædia" can help you in your particular sphere, send for a book describing its contents more fully than there is space for here. It is sent to you free, and places you under no obligation to buy or even to inspect the books.

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Address .....

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS, AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P.

DEAR CHANCELLOR,—We are all getting frightfully excited about that Land policy of yours, which is going to do such wonderful things! But Mr. Asquith doesn't seem very happy about it yet, and he rather let you down in the House the other day, but I daresay you know what you're about—whateffer! In any case, I expect you'll get your own way in the end—and then there *will* be some fun! All the Liberal landowners will scuttle off like frightened rabbits. Hurry up! I *do* want to see the present Party system out of the way!

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Col. Seely, M.P.

DEAR SEELY,—A word in your ear! I am most anxious to see the Territorial Force made thoroughly efficient, and to this end it is imperative that recruiting should be encouraged. The root difficulty is with employers, who are reluctant to allow their men the necessary time to make themselves efficient. Many firms have acted with splendid patriotism, but others have not yet seen their way to grant the required facilities. There is one way in which a little gentle pressure might be applied. How would it be to remit the employers' Insurance contribution in respect of all employés who join the Territorial Force within a certain time?

I make you a present of the suggestion. Talk it over with Lloyd George, mentioning my name.

JOHN BULL.

To James Cunningham, Esq., Chairman, Parish Council, Glasgow.

SIR,—For several years there appear to have been falsifications in the Collector's Department of the Parish Council of Glasgow. The ratepayers generally, I believe, do not know that an audit investigation is on foot, and as I am afraid it may be rather less thorough and rather less deep than is demanded in the public interest, I shall be glad if you will keep a strict watch on the process. The whole of the accounts and books should be sifted—notices, collector's sheets, cash books, receipts, etc., being tested by themselves and against one another. The public of Glasgow are entitled to know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, no matter whose the blunder, whose the neglect, or whose the crime. Assure yourself that any attempt at whitewashing will signally fail.

At present I charge nobody, and I blame nobody. As you are the Chairman of the Council, I trust to you to see that the defalcations are probed to the deeps. Who has been auditing the accounts? Who is now conducting the investigation? Has anybody connected with the investigation been connected at any time in the capacity of servant or master with any person previously concerned with an oversight of the accounts? What instructions has the investigating auditor received? Is he merely investigating the accounts for a year, or for how long back? Is he taking full advantage of all the suggestions offered to him for comparison of books and documents? If his investigation is as thorough as it should be, it ought to show not only the extent of the defalcations, but how long they have been going on, and who is responsible for them. With nothing less will the ratepayers be satisfied—now that they know of the matter.

JOHN BULL.

To Cecil Chapman, Esq., Tower Bridge Police Court.

DEAR CADI,—The other day you declined to accept lack of boots as an excuse for non-attendance at school, saying, "It does not hurt people in the country to go barefoot, and I should not mind it myself." Perhaps you would not. Probably your magisterial foot is provided with a pachydermatous hide which a hippopotamus might envy, and is encrusted with callosities from which the most determined thorn and sharpest flint would turn in despair. But may I remind you that the soles of children are tender, and that a scratch or a cut may afford entry to the deadly tetanic bacillus at any moment? I am sure you would be the first to grieve at the news that any child, forced to walk to school through your decision, had died in the appalling convulsions of lockjaw.

JOHN BULL.

To John Redmond, Esq., M.P., House of Commons, Westminster.

DEAR MR. REDMOND,—I have read your recent Home Rule Speech at Dublin, and I must congratulate you upon its admirable tone. You have toiled strenuously for long years, and now that victory appears to be within your grasp, you might have been excused if you had indulged in a vainglorious defiance of your opponents. You did none of these things. Your speech was a model of that dignified reserve which is the mark of true statesmanship. Perhaps you are wise enough to realise that the victory is not quite won, that even yet untoward events may deprive you of its full fruition. Be this as it may, your speech has opened up a brighter prospect, and done much to justify the sanguine hope that all difficulties may yet be overcome. You say you would pay a big price for a settlement of the Irish problem by consent.

That price may yet be demanded of you; may you have courage to redeem your pledge.

JOHN BULL.

To Councillor F. Holton, Mayor of Buckingham.

DEAR YOUR WORSHIP,—Don't you really think you have made an unnecessary fuss about that fire brigade dinner? I admit that a Mayor, occupying as he does the highest post of honour the citizens are able to confer on him, should be treated by everybody, on all occasions, with respect. And, of course, if he is to merit the respect, his duty is to maintain the dignity due to his office. What I wish to suggest to you, sir, is that you have gone about the maintenance of your dignity in a way which has almost succeeded in making you look foolish.

That the motto under the toast, "Our City Fathers," on the menu card of the Fire Brigade dinner was in somewhat bad taste, I admit. I refer to the Browning quotation—"Our Mayor's a noddy; and as for our Corporation—shocking." But to raise this "noddy" menu in serious debate in the Council, to orate about your dignity being slighted and your office insulted, with one Councillor telling you what he would have done, another telling you what you should have done, and all practically agreed they would have done what you did not do, with the noddy joke ringing all over the place, with the menu card raised to the heights of the ridiculous as a civic curiosity—allow me to say, Mr. Mayor, that all this has dignified your office nothing, and in respect of yourself has probably brought into public circulation an obvious nickname which will stick to you for all time. "Noddy Holton," your worship, is not a name, I do assure you, to conjure with. Luckily, your first name isn't Tom!

JOHN BULL.

To Col. M. Lockwood, M.P., Chairman, Kitchen Committee, House of Commons.

MY DEAR LOCKWOOD,—Sorry to see you have had to write to the papers in reply to certain unprincipled persons who have dared to criticise the administration of the great State department over which you preside. No one who has ever had experience of the Parliamentary cuisine will cast an aspersion on its excellence. What it lacks in quality, it makes up in quantity—and almost as cheap as Lockhart's. And you make a profit all the time!

Truth to tell, the commissariat is the one branch of British administration in which there is anything like Business government. You have been a brilliant success in your high office, and I doubt not that when your Party comes into power, your great services will be remembered. The man who can show a profit on John Ward's shilling dinner is a born statesman.

JOHN BULL.

R. D. Muir, Treasury Counsel.

Commiseration on collapse of Veronal Case—after your sensational opening. Suggest you should now retire on your laurels—as the only member of the Bar who ever sent a witness to sleep by cross-examination.

BULL.

Make sure of Next Week's Great Surprise Number. Order IN ADVANCE.

A SCOTT TO HONOUR.

JOHN BULL: "Ah, this is a Scott one CAN take one's hat off to!"

OUR EARLY SPRING.

SOME SIGNS OF THE SEASON.

By RICHARD MORTON.

It is easy, if you look around, to see the signs of spring; the early season lays its mark on nearly everything; the weather's mild, and all the trees a faint green livery don, while people tell each other that the winter's really gone. Just a day of lively sunshine from a sky that's blue and clear, and everybody's heart is glad to know that spring is here!

You feel it in the atmosphere, you feel it in your boot, which presses just exactly where the corn begins to shoot; you feel it in the balmy air, and high your head you hold, until Dame Nature hands you out your usual spring-time cold. That is a sign you recognise, more than the softest breeze, the moment that you hold your breath and start a violent sneeze.

The cuckoo now doth cuck-oo, and you listen in the hills to hear his dual note that all so eloquently thrills; but yet no bird an egg hath laid—'tis some base joker's trick; a sign that some bricklayer has just been and laid a brick.

Ah! all around is teeming life, all fresher runs the blood; the crocuses are blooming till the birds tear out the bud; the lawn is growing passable, green are some grassy plots; perhaps your own complexion doth just now break out in spots. 'Tis certain uncle knows that now is fled dark winter's gloom, for on his nasal organ the grog-blossoms are in bloom.

The children all begin to cough; ma is afraid of croup, and sadly worried lest it should turn out to be a whoop. The sale of handkerchiefs goes up, you shed your heavy clothes, and half the country now, it seems, is speaking through its nose.

The doctor's very busy and his days begin to hum; you send for him, and, if you're on his panel, he will come. He feels your pulse, he tells you to put out your tongue, and sighs "Ah! liverish, and out of sorts; the bile has marked your eyes. You've caught a cold? Of course you have; you have a nasty cough? Well, what can you expect when you have left your flannels off?"

So he prescribes you nasty stuff, as strong as anything, and tells you it's to clear the blood, because of early spring; meanwhile, you must eat rhubarb, sprouts, and all such cabbage crops, green thing of all sorts, best of which, he says, are turnip tops.

You ought to wear, if you are wise, a rubber o'er your boot, because in spring there always is much water under foot; and this is such an early spring—just see the almanacks!—that you had best invest your cash in brand-new gamps and macks.

In truth, the message of the time to all speaks plain, though faint; in fact, you cannot anywhere escape the smell of paint; for, as the sun mounts higher and the day is growing older, one man in every three has got a ladder on his shoulder, and in his hand a paint-pot, out of which there sticks a brush. Beware the madness of the spring, lest into him you rush!

The painter-man is full of work, yet grumbles, like a dunce; no work all winter—now he's wanted everywhere at once. Your pocket knows the signs as well, for, with successive shocks, you learn that wife and daughters each at once must have new frocks. The boys' clothes, too, are done for, and all frazzled at the hem: "Look at my trousers, father dear! To school?—no, not in *them!*"

Oh! lovely is the early spring, though out of season quite, and gaily do our hearts respond when all is warm and bright; so eagerly we greet the sun, salute the smiling sky, and get into our lighter things when winter has gone by. . . .

Until, next day, the fog returns, the driving sleet and rain, the cold, the mud, the misery—the winter once again! All which conveys a lesson, plain to read as any thing—One swallow makes no summer, and one sunbeam makes no spring!

WE have received a copy of "Grimstone's Directory of Persons Registered to Lend Money," which is published by Mr. Alfred Grimstone, of 157, Strand, W.C., at 5s. net. The work should be invaluable to lenders, borrowers, solicitors, etc.

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In new shades of Grey and Heather mixtures from the best quality Irish and Scotch Tweeds and Homespun Cloths. Usually 30/- and 35/-.
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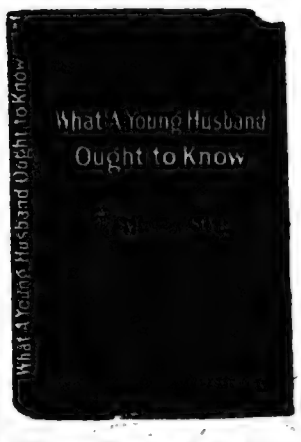

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By Sylvanus Stall, D.D.

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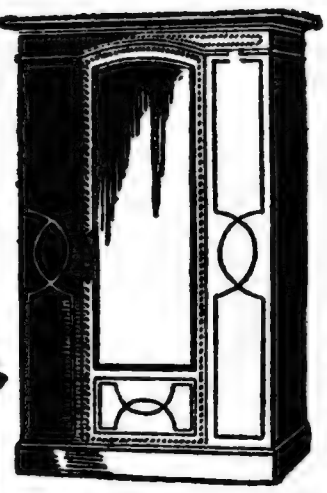
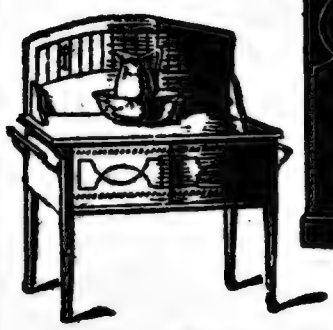
This Sale will, undoubtedly, be the biggest in the history of our Firm—we shall sell more furniture and find more customers than we have ever done before—just because our values and our exceptional and distinctive stock are the best and biggest on record.



Visitors to our Showrooms should make an especial point of seeing our newly re-arranged model rooms and completely furnished flats, to be purchased exactly as they stand at inclusive figures.

Orders received during this Sale will have our immediate and most careful attention, and our Stock is such that we can give immediate delivery of anything selected.



An additional discount of 10 % will always be allowed for Cash, and your fares to our Showrooms paid on any order over £20.

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For the thousands who wish to take advantage of our present Sale Prices, and who at the same time want further special terms, we offer our GRADUAL PAYMENTS. All you are required to pay is a small sum per month or per quarter, arranged so that the complete purchase is made in a term of one, two, or three years, as may suit your convenience. No interest is charged for this, and it follows that it costs you no more to purchase in this way.

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HOW A STRAIGHT COMPETITION IS RUN.

INTERESTING SNAPSHOTS OF STAFF AT WORK.

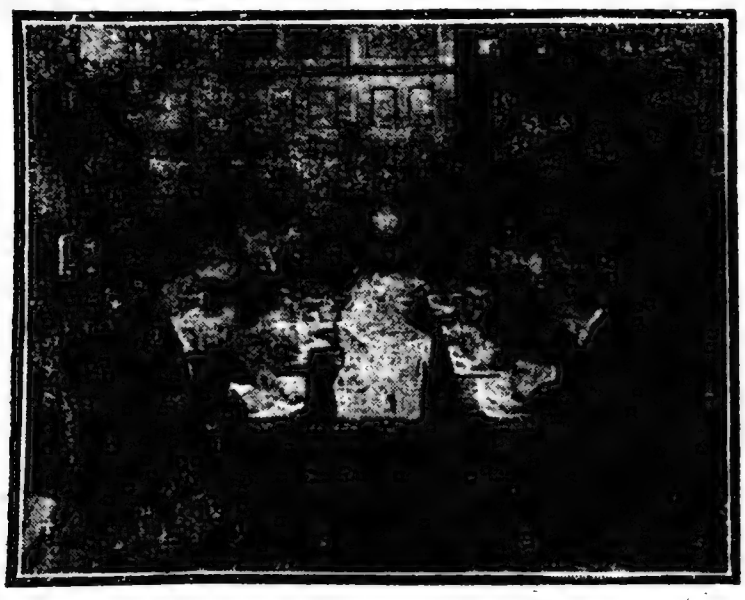
Below we give one or two interesting photos of such portions of our Competition staff as the camera could

COLLATING THE COUPONS.

command, showing the elaborate nature of the arrangements made by us for checking, collating and judging the coupons in connection with our various competitions. We

THE FOOTBALL SCRUTINEERS.

can safely say that no other journal in the kingdom takes such trouble to ensure the careful examination of every coupon—a fact which, no doubt, largely accounts for the



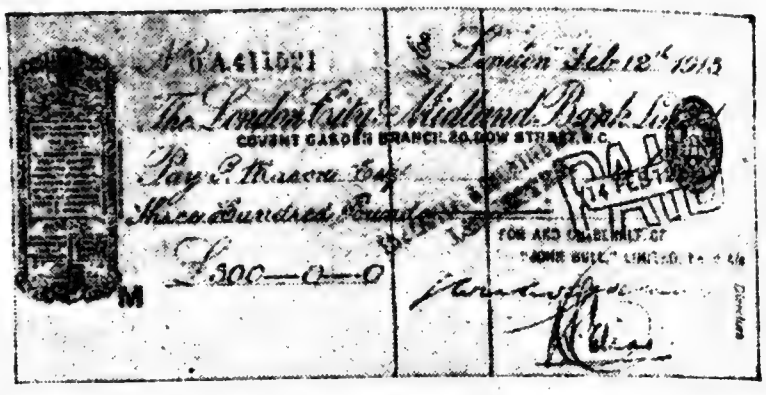
THE JUDGES AT WORK.

phenomenal success of our "Bullets" and Football Competitions, and the universal satisfaction with which our decisions are received.

OUR NO. 17 "BULLETS" WINNER.

WELL-KNOWN LEICESTER TRADESMAN GETS £300.

Mr. P. Mason, of Leicester, an old-established factor of hay, corn and agricultural produce, but whose immediate claim to distinction is that he has won the £300 first prize in our No. 17 "Bullets" Competition, tells us that he achieved his remarkable success with the expenditure of the few coppers necessary to procure and send off one coupon. The preceding week he forwarded a shilling postal order and got nothing, whilst previously he had made two single attempts, one of which had been rewarded with a con-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£300—0—0

solation prize. When he had thought out what proved to be the £300 winner, he felt quite sure he would get something, but hardly expected so magnificent a prize, although it was naturally his ambition, on the attainment of which he, of course, feels pride. Mr. Mason says that he has carefully watched the result of every "Bullets" Competition since their inauguration, and, in his opinion—which the recent event can hardly have modified—every prize awarded was for sheer merit. The original of the above cheque will be on view in the window of Mr. M. A. Sidwell, 8, Granby Street, Leicester, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 20th, 21st and 22nd; and in that of Mr. C. Oldershaw, Granby House, Granby Street, Leicester, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 24th, 25th, and 26th.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

A-TISH-SHOO!!

The Cabinet Minister reaches the House
Intent on affairs of the Nation,
That is, musing on strategy meant to arouse
In the land-owning class, consternation.
He reaches his desk and his letters he grasps,
Correspondence, he thinks, on some issue,
He opens an envelope—gurgles and gasps,
And finishes up with "A-TISH-shoo!!"

His prim secretary jumps up in dismay,
"A-TISH!!" says his chief; "what in thunder
Is making me sneeze in this very queer way,—
A-TISH-shoo!!—A-TISH-SHOO!!!—I wonder?"
"A-TISH-shoo!!" the prim secretary replies,
"I really can't say, sir—A-TISH-SHOO!!
I fancy that something's got into our eyes,
For mine smart infernally—TISH-SHOO!!!"

The scene is repeated in neighbouring rooms,
Where various Ministers hang out,
Until with loud "TISH-SHOO'S" all Westminster looms,
Such sneezes don't frequently clang out.
No balm to the sneezers is't ours to extend,
They shirked the great Suffragist issue,
Threw dust in the eyes of the women—the end
Is—TISH!!—as it should be—A-TISH-SHOO!!

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page iii of cover.

OURS—the ONLY Pension Prize GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S.

How to Get Rid of Catarrh.

A Simple Safe, Reliable Way, and It Costs Nothing to Try.

Those who suffer from catarrh know its miseries. There is no need of this suffering. You can get rid of it by a simple, safe, inexpensive, home treatment discovered by Dr. Blosser, who, for over thirty-six years, has been treating catarrh successfully.

His treatment is unlike any other. It is not a spray, douche, salve, cream, or inhaler, but is a more direct and thorough treatment than any of these. It cleans out the head, nose, throat and lungs so that you can again breathe freely and sleep without that stopped-up feeling that all catarrh sufferers have. It heals the diseased mucous membranes and arrests the foul discharge, so that you will not be constantly blowing your nose and spitting, and at the same time it does not poison the system and ruin the stomach, as internal medicines do.

If you want to test this treatment without cost, send your address to Dr. Blosser, Ltd. (Dept. 21 B), 8, Bouverie Street, London, E.C., who will send you by return post enough of the medicine to satisfy you that it is all they claim for it as a remedy for catarrh, catarrhal headaches, catarrhal deafness, asthma, bronchitis, colds and all catarrhal complications. They will also send you free an illustrated booklet. Write them immediately.

The man behind the plate

has a good appetite and a sound digestion because he always uses Colman's Mustard.

Colman's
D.S.F. Mustard

Take it when you're young—you'll have a better digestion when you're old.

Riley's Billiard Tables.

Roberts and Gray both made their record breaks on Riley's Standard Tables.

Give yourself and your whole family a present that all can enjoy, a Riley Miniature Billiard Table. Whatever size your room there is a Riley table to fit it.

Riley's Miniature Tables to fit on your own dining table from £3/7/6, Riley's Combine Billiard and Dining Tables from £13 10s. to £32.

Prices include all accessories, carriage paid to nearest railway station in the United Kingdom. Cash or Easy Payments.

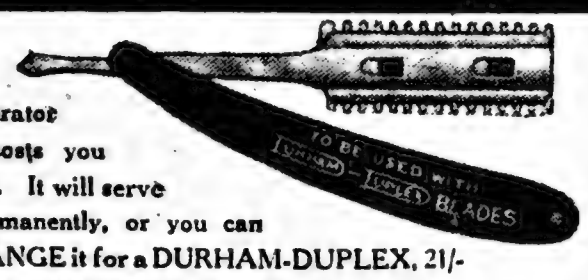
FREE on receipt of postcard, full detailed illustrated catalogue of Billiard and Dining Tables.

E. J. RILEY, Ltd., Imperial Mills, ACCRINGTON.
London Showrooms: 147, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

Brainine

The ONLY CURE for BRAIN FAG, NERVES, etc.
Brainine Company, 2, Mareham Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

GUINEA DURHAM-DUPLEX SHAVING FOR 2/6



This Demonstrator Razor costs you only 2/6. It will serve you permanently, or you can EXCHANGE it for a DURHAM-DUPLEX, 21/- or DURHAM-DERBY, 10/6 outfit, with your 2/6 credited

Here is a real 'RAZOR,' but used FLAT, with Double-edged guarded blades. It smooths your hair off.

IT COSTS YOU NOTHING to see it at your Dealers;

Or apply to DURHAM-DUPLEX RAZOR CO., LTD., 5w. YORK BUILDINGS, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C.

GRAVES RELIABLE CLOCKS.

This Handsome Solid Walnut Regulator (No. 1223) has a well built case of tasteful design, eight-day brass and steel movement with polished plates, wheels and pinions, strikes hours and half-hours on deep sweet-toned cathedral gong, guaranteed a perfect time-keeper. Height 28 inches, warranted three years.

WE DELIVER this superb Clock ready timed and in perfect going order, insured and carriage paid to all approved orders for **2/6** with order. If fully satisfactory when examined and tested, the balance is payable by ten monthly payments of **2/2** The fullest approval is allowed, and in case of disappointment, or dissatisfaction, we will instantly refund your money in full.

2/6 with order.

WRITE FOR OUR NEW CATALOGUE FREE. Send for our handsomely illustrated book of Clocks, containing the finest collection of up-to-date designs ever assembled in one catalogue—Kitchen, Drawing, Dining and Bedroom Clocks, Alarm Clocks, and all the latest novelties at favourable prices, and on our convenient Easy Terms, or Cash Discount.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES SMART PRAMS.

7/6 NOW

WE DELIVER this elegant easy running Pram, safely packed and all charges paid to destination, for **7/6** with order. If considered entirely satisfactory after full examination, balance is payable by 11 monthly payments of 5/- Thoroughly well built in the best style from reliable materials and fitted with Cee Springs, Reversible Hood, braced with Strong Brass Stays, Bicycle Pattern Wheels, with extra Rubber Tyres.

Write for ART CATALOGUE FREE. This interesting Book fully illustrates and describes all the latest and best designs in Mail Carts and Baby Carriages, all at challenging prices and easy monthly payment terms. A Post Card to-day is all that is necessary.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

BEDSTEADS.

In your own interest you should send a Post Card to-day for our handsomely illustrated catalogue of Metal and Wood Bedsteads. Artistically designed and constructed on the latest hygienic principles, and supplied direct from the factory carriage paid to your nearest railway station for small payment with order; balance payable in monthly payments after full inspection in your own home. This catalogue contains the widest up-to-date choice of every type of bedstead and you should not miss this opportunity of sending for it. Will save you pounds.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

John Bull League Notes.

(By the General Secretary.)

MANCHESTER.—The President has been—and spoken and conquered. Never has the historic Free Trade Hall presented a more impressive and animated appearance, and never has Mr. Bottomley been in better form. His address was a complete triumph in every respect, and the whole thing was a repetition of the scene at the Birmingham Town Hall a week previously. The proceedings opened with a splendid organ recital by Mr. Herbert Walker, and Mr. George Ditchburn, the Cathedral baritone, who was in magnificent voice, sang the League Songs. Mr. H. Ross Clyne, the popular and only independent member of the City Council, made an ideal chairman, and was ably supported by Mr. W. J. Cremlin (a leading member of the local Bar), the Executive Committee, Mr. Reginald Knight (of the Leeds branch), Mr. T. J. Lalor (the Secretary of the Sheffield branch), and many other distinguished visitors.

GLASGOW.—I am at the George Hotel, Buchanan Street, where each successive post brings me shoals of applications for tickets for the President's meeting. I have just a few reserved seats at 1s. left, and shall be pleased to supply them as far as they go. The following gentlemen also hold tickets. I would mention that the whole of the proceeds of these tickets go to the local Branch :—Messrs. Hugh McLeone, 1,222, Springburn Road; D. McLean, 8, South Chester Street, Shettleston; D. Millar, 28, Govanhill Street; J. Fennor, 418, West Muir Street, Parkhead; and W. Lewis, 13, Broad Street, Mile End. Mr. P. A. Hope, the eminent Scotch basso, who recently appeared before the present King and Queen, will sing the League Songs. Mr. Thomas Freer, solo organist to the Corporation of Glasgow, will give a recital on the grand organ from 7.10 to 8 o'clock. Mr. Hugh McCone, the Local Secretary, will be glad to hear from members who have changed their addresses during the last twelve months. Immediately after the President's visit the Branch Annual General Meeting will be held and members are requested to send their subscriptions at once in order that they may be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.

BIRMINGHAM.—Following upon the President's visit, the local Branch have now settled the plan of campaign for the year. The Annual General Meeting of the Branch has been fixed for March 5th. Meanwhile, will members who have not yet done so, please send their present addresses and annual subscriptions to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Norman Owen, The Primroses, Four Oaks?

HACKNEY.—Mr. Dan Kingston, of 76, Broadway, London Fields, N.E., has been appointed local Chairman of the South Hackney Branch. He is working hard for the success of the League L.C.C. Candidates, Mrs. Wells-Holland and Mr. A. L. Cox., and will be pleased to see, at the Central Committee Rooms, 171, Mare Street, Hackney, any members who can spare time to assist in the contest. Mr. Bottomley will address several of the meetings.

The John Bull League.

OBJECTS: To Stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to Create a Robust and Self-reliant Public Opinion; and to Promote a Common Sense Business Government for a Common Sense Business People.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

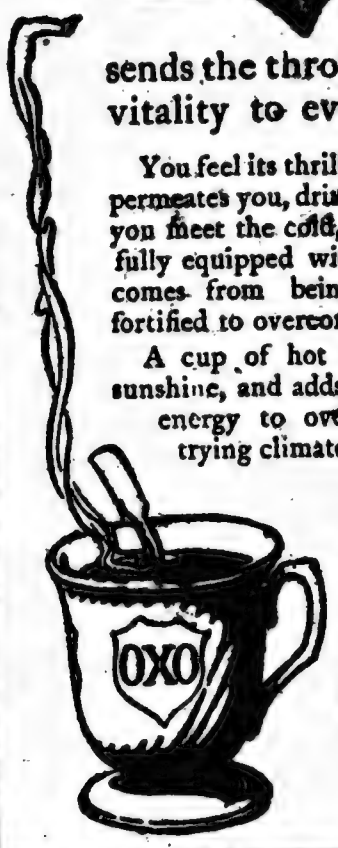
Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

A cup of hot OXO



sends the throb of health, vigour and vitality to every part of the body.

You feel its thrill in your finger tips—its warmth permeates you, driving out colds and chills, so that you meet the cold, the snow, the rain or the fog fully equipped with that abounding fitness which comes from being thoroughly nourished and fortified to overcome Winter's trials.

A cup of hot Oxo makes up for the loss of sunshine, and adds to the sun-starved system extra energy to overcome the treacheries of our trying climate.

A cup of hot Oxo is good for all ages. It brings happy smiles of health to the children—nourishment and vigour to the old.

KEEP WELL ON OXO

OXO, Thames House, London, E.C.

FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS,
Formerly the Properties of
LADY MEUX, THE LATE LORD LISTER, LADY ALICE HOSTE, & OTHERS.
NOW ON SALE.

THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES, LTD,

Send for Photographic Catalogue. Sent post free.
Hours of Business: open every day 9 till 8, excepting Saturday, when we close at 1 o'clock.

The following is an abbreviated list of articles now to be seen:—
4 ft. 6 in. Oak Sideboard, £3 12s. 6d.; 6 Dining Chairs and 2 Carving Chairs to match, £4 15s.; Dining Table, 38s. 6d.; 12 Overmantels at 17s. 6d.; Large Size well-sprung Chesterfield and 2 Lounge Easies, £7 15s.; 80 Queen Anne Design Dining Room Chairs, Leather Seats, 4os. 6d. each; Massive Elizabethan Design Sideboard, 6 Chairs, and 2 Massive Carving Chairs to match, Heavily Carved Dining Table to match, will accept £77 10s. the suite; 16 ft. Dining Table, 18s. 6d.; Handsome Queen Anne Design Sideboard, £7 15s.

THE BEDROOM FURNITURE comprises 28 Complete Bedrooms.
5 Oak Bedroom Suites with full Chest of Drawers to Dressing Chest, £4 10s. 10 Oak Bedsteads at 14s. 6d., 3 Large Size Walnut Bedroom Suites, £6 15s. 3 Large Size Bedsteads with Sanitary Woven Wire Spring Overlay, Bolster and 2 Pillows, £2 12s. 6d. complete; 4 Handsome Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, £7 15s.; Pair of Twin Bedsteads to Match, 63s.; Large Double Oval Door Bedroom Suite, Sheraton Design, £15 15s.; Bevel Mirrors to Dressing-table. Full-size Bedstead to match, £2 15s.; a very fine Gent's Wardrobe, £6 15s.; Handsome Walnut Dressing Chest and Washstand, £4 10s.; Handsome 6 ft. Louis XV. Bedroom Suite, most exquisite Design, £28; Old Dutch Wardrobe, no reasonable offer refused. 7 ft. Mahogany Wardrobe, fitted two-thirds hanging, one-third drawers and trays, 12 gns.; 3 Large-size Oak Bedroom Suites, £8 15s. Several Chests of Drawers, 18s. 6d.; 6 ft. Inlaid Sheraton design Bedroom Suite, an absolute bargain, 25 gns.; 3 Exquisite Design Inlaid Bedroom Suites, with shaving mirror to washstand, £11; 5 White Enamel Bedroom Suites, £6 10s. Bedstead to match, 30s.

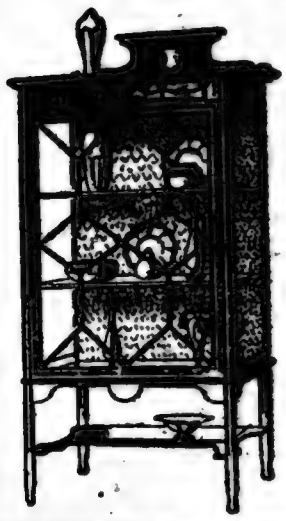
DRAWING ROOMS:—
Chesterfield, 2 Very Comfortable Lounge Easy Chairs and 4 Solid Mahogany Occasional Chairs all covered in fine art Tapestry, £11 15s.; worth double; Louis XV. Design Cabinet, £2 15s.; Another, similar design, £4 15s.; 3 Chesterfield, with adjustable ends, £3 15s.; 10 Lounge Easy Chairs, 17s. 6d.; Settee, 2 Tub Easy Chairs, 4 Occasional Chairs, £6 6s. Upright Piano by Gustav Richter, £18 18s.; Another by Collard and Collard, £16 10s. A very fine selection of Chesterfields and Easy Chairs always in Stock. Also bed and Table Linen. 50 Carpets from 7s. 6d. Turkey Carpets, all sizes, for £4.

Any Article will be sold separately, and can be selected at once, and can be stored until required free of charge.
All goods delivered and packed free of charge. Special attention given to export orders.

The NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES,
92, 93, & 94 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.
One Door from Oxford St. Three minutes from Tottenham Court Rd. and Oxford Circus, & adjoining all the principal tubes. Telephone: 1307 Central

The House for Value

Notable examples of the attractive prices ruling at London's Leading Furnishing House.

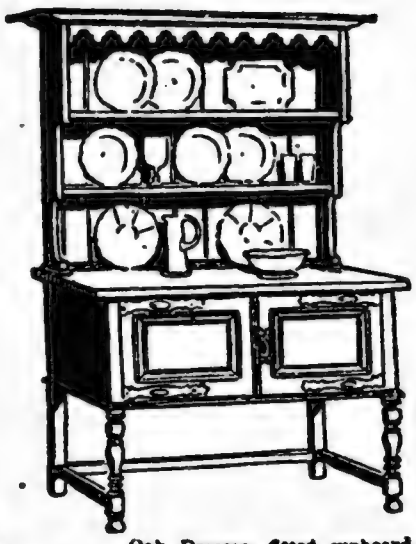


Mahogany China Cabinet, Sheraton Style, Boxwood Stringing and Inlay, the back and shelves lined with Brocade. 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 6 ft. 0 in. high, 14 in. deep.

£4 . 4 . 0

THE genuine value we give, and the fair and honest terms which, for 50 years, have been the feature of our house, are the factors which have built up our huge business.

If you contemplate furnishing, compare our prices before finally deciding where to buy. Midland value and Midland quality are now, as they have always been, unequalled in the whole furnishing trade.



Oak Dresser, fitted cupboard below. Oxydized Hinges.

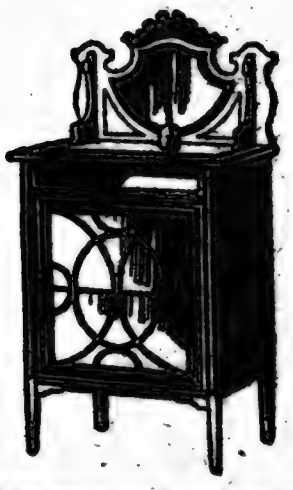
£3 . 15 . 0

The House with the Colonnade.

Railway Fares Paid.
Country Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.

Second-Hand Department.
We have in this department alone a stock valued at considerably over £10,000. A special catalogue is issued weekly, which we shall be pleased to forward post free on application.

Our elaborate complete Furnishing Guide, containing hundreds of illustrations and many coloured plates is now ready. A copy will be sent free on request.



Inlaid Mahogany China or Music Cabinet, Bevelled Plate to Back. 4 ft. 9 in. high, 1 ft. 11 in. wide, 13 in. deep.

£2 . 10 . 0

You can furnish without capital by availing yourself of our Ideal Payment System. No deposit is asked, no interest required, and no extra charges made.

Terms.

Worth.	Per Month.	
£10 ...	£0	6 0
£20 ...	0	11 0
£30 ...	0	17 0
£40 ...	1	5 0
£50 ...	1	8 0
£100 ...	2	5 0
£200 ...	4	10 0

10% Discount for Cash.
No Charge for Credit.

Or by any proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.

Easy Chair, with loose Cushion, covered in any colour Cretonne, 3 ft. high, 3 ft. 1 in. wide, 21½ in. deep.

£2 . 10 . 0

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.

"London's Leading Furnishers,"

15 to 23 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Hours—9 till 8. Sats.—9 till 1.

A

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—

If St. Paul's is cracking, is it a joke?
Has "Eliza Come to Stay" at the Criterion?
Have you seen our *All*-Age Pension on page 283?
Isn't the Milk Bill a matter of "life and death"?
Isn't the "Cabinet" getting a little "warped"?
Do the Suffragettes want their "clause" cut again?
Shouldn't whist drive holders beware of a "revoke"?
Weren't they really "Titanic" costs in that Inquiry?
Isn't the Territorial Force "patchy" enough already?
Are the Land Taxes a "paying" game for the Government?
Do "hanged" and "suspended" mean the same thing in the Lords?
Will the House of Commons tape machine be of the official "red" variety?
Apropos of Germany's "Navy" admission, isn't there something "in the air"?

* * *

MERELY RUMOURS:—

That the Chinese play is "Tu-rand-ot."
That the Turkey Plot is growing some hot stuff.
That Home Rule Bill now considers his College Green.
That the doctors' pledge is no longer a pawn in the game.
That it was necessary to shell Adrianople to obtain peace.
That the Suffragettes will get their cross through the Crown.
That Sir Herbert Tree visited Russia to find a dancing bear.
That the Tramway receipts prove that the system is paying.
That "Trust the People" at the Garrick means free admission.
That the headline, "Welsh Footballers in Gaol," is bad spelling.
That Germany is willing to "swop" all her Dreadnoughts for Australia.
That the outbreak of fire at the Colonial Office was caused by friction in the Cabinet.
That the man who injured the pictures at the National Gallery mistook them for Panels.
That owing to many resignations a new club is to be instituted to be called "The Land Reform."
That Mr. Asquith and Mr. Churchill are not the only members of the Cabinet who have been at sea.
That upon hearing that a contemporary was giving away soap, Lord Northcliffe said he had had some.

* * *

NOVEL MEDICAL HINTS:—

For the mumps try "Bullets."
For the itch join a scratch team.
For baldness get plenty of fresh air.
For snake-bite put the thirst in pledge.
Eau-de-Cologne helps you over a stye.
When a corn shoots up your leg, clip it in the ear.
An engagement ring is the best safeguard against chaps.
To increase the circulation lie on a placard once daily.
If you are a little hoarse, take oats and a warm mash.
To reduce big joints, marry a widow with four children.
If a chilblain breaks, a little ointment may help you to stick it.
To give a cracked lip a chance, only humorous papers should be read.
A bruise from a hammer is relieved by anything that rhymes with mast or ham.

* * *

Turkey's hopes have gone to cede.

* * *

"Romance of the pill," we read. A short story, usually.

* * *

"£4 for Mummies," says a heading. We thought it was thirty shillings.

* * *

A tobacco company has arranged to deliver its goods by air. No light returns, we hope.

* * *

"Is a sardine an animal?" was asked in a recent case. We often see them behind bars.

* * *

Liquefied gold has been found beneficial in certain skin diseases. A sovereign remedy.

* * *

"Banknotes in a Football," says a heading. Professional players think this nothing new.

* * *

The latest dress is called the "easy-exit" gown. Nevertheless, husbands will have to find the weigh out.

* * *

The new M.P. for Flint Boroughs slipped on the platform at a railway junction. But so many members do this without the railway junction.

* * *

The life of a window cleaner who dropped forty feet was saved because he fell on his nose. We hope it will be able to stand a good many more blows.

* * *

Even a vicar cannot play with Grime and keep his hands clean.

* * *

"The Schoolmistress" is to be revived. It should appeal to all classes.

* * *

Mr. Chamberlain has gone to Cannes, and the Food Taxes have gone to pot.

* * *

Ladies' hats are to be smaller this season. But the prices will be as big as ever.

* * *

Kentish coal has at last been marketed. This should mean nuts for the men of Kent.

* * *

When Robert Louis Stevenson was restless or ill he used to knit. A comforter, no doubt.

* * *

Spring hats are to be trimmed with apples. How these old fashions do keep cropping up.

* * *

"She stoops to corn-cure," murmured the inveterate punster as he watched the lady chiropodist.

* * *

Lloyd George's voice is, it appears, a tenor, and not, as some of his opponents contend, a bass one.

* * *

Powdered hair is to be fashionable again. The cute young man will carry a small clothes-brush.

* * *

Leigh (Essex) proposes to supply London with sea water. Where are *they* going to get it from?

* * *

The suffragette sent letters containing red pepper to members of the Cabinet. The "noes" had it.

* * *

A lady has left her cat an annuity of four shillings per week. One thing, it will be all for Tommy.

* * *

They have had a tramps' convention at New Orleans. As might be expected, nothing was done.

* * *

Some lemons have been raised in a cold frame, in Essex. We prefer putting them down a cold frame.

* * *

"Baby as Football," reads a headline. It must have been what is known as a fine, "bouncing" child.

* * *

"Can pretty girls play golf?" asks a morning paper. If they cannot, it is not for want of teachers.

* * *

The child who defined a "suffragette" as a "little sufferer" no doubt remembered their affinity for "panes."

* * *

A Bath burglar shaved, washed himself, and brushed his teeth before departing. He got clean away.

* * *

"The supply of money was quite inadequate yesterday," says a financial report. And they call it news!

* * *

The statement that skirts are to be shorter than ever is alarming; already we have too many round-shouldered men.

* * *

A Cincinnati woman has had her false teeth stolen. The thieves doubtless hoped that she would keep her mouth shut.

* * *

A vicar has asked the Bishop of Peterborough to give up smoking. But why not sermons? These are generally a beastly fag.

* * *

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst is said to have slapped the face of a Superintendent. How his hand must have itched to slap her back!

* * *

The Bermondsey Council has saved £7 by using the dirty water from the swimming baths for road-watering purposes. Filthy lucre.

* * *

A taxi-cab driver was summoned for taking nine passengers in his cab. Perhaps he thought it correct to enlist an army under his flag.

* * *

"Our cemetery—Reasons why you should give it a trial," is a heading in a local contemporary. But for the present we give it summary dismissal.

* * *

TEACHER (*reading aloud*): "'Now the beaver is very intelligent: it can construct a dam——.' Of course you all know what a dam is?"

A VOICE: "Yes. Father said it this morning when his bootlace broke."

A LLOYD'S GUARANTEE is as Safe as the Bank of England.

FINAL COUPON—YOUR LAST CHANCE!

YOUR LAST CHANCE TO WIN

£6 A WEEK FOR LIFE

SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES NOW

YOUR LAST CHANCE! FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK.

Two distinct Record Cash Prizes are offered—a FIRST PENSION PRIZE of £6 a week for Life, which we have guaranteed at Lloyd's, and a SECOND PRIZE of £600 cash down. All you have to do is to forecast the results of the 10 League Games to be played on Saturday, March 1st, given on the Entrance Form on the inside of front cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw do not cross out either team.

We make no restrictive conditions, and

ABANDONED MATCHES WILL MAKE NO DIFFERENCE!

To the Competitor who sends us an entrance form containing a correct forecast of all the matches played to a finish EVEN IF THE NUMBER BE ONLY 10 OR 12—we shall award the first prize of £6 a week for Life.

In addition to the £6 a Week for Life we shall also award a Second Prize of the huge sum of

£600 IN CASH

to the competitor whose entrance form contains the next most correct forecasts. To make it quite clear. The competitor succeeding in correctly forecasting the results of all the matches played to a finish will receive £6 a Week for Life.

GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S

ANOTHER RECORD FOOTBALL SKILL COMPETITION NEXT WEEK.

GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S.

In addition we shall still award £600 to the competitor whose coupon contains most correct forecasts, short of the full number of results. In any event, £600 MUST be won.

You can send in as many entries as you like, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but every coupon must be signed in ink by its respective sender.

Ladies are invited to enter this competition.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of Competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

Study the form of the clubs named, exercise your skill and send in your Entries now.

CLOSING DATE, FRIDAY, FEB. 28.

Read These Rules Carefully.

1. On the Entrance Form on the inside of front cover, cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," Pension Prize Competition, 15, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, February 28th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize of £6 a week for Life (Guaranteed at Lloyd's) will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the *Sporting Life*, of all the matches given played to a finish on March 1st; and the Second Prize of £600 in cash will be awarded to the competitor whose coupon gives the next most correct forecasts. **In any event the £600 must be won.**

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the First Prize of £6 a week for Life and the Second Prize of £600 will be equally divided.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28th.

No Goals Required.

Important

The match between **Leicester Fosse** and **Fulham** having been brought forward and already played, the fixture has now been omitted from the coupon and will be disregarded when judging. Forecasts are now required of

Only 19 Matches.

No ENTRANCE FEE.

THE

FINAL COUPON

WILL BE FOUND

ON THE INSIDE OF FRONT COVER.

You can send in as many coupons as you like.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition turn to page 290 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £400 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other prizes to the value of £1,720.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—New readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate, until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 288.
For Sporting Replies, see page 292.

J. H. (Bootle) wants us to issue an appeal "on behalf of poor inventors." We have every sympathy with this deserving class, but we are afraid that if we open our columns to the ventilation of their grievances there would be little room for anything else!

O. T. (S. Tottenham).—According to what you tell us, the sailors employed on a certain line of weekly cattle boats running to Ghent work from twenty-eight to thirty hours overtime, for which they receive the magnificent sum of 4s. 9d. per man. The owners might at least make it 4s. 11½d.

"DEVONIA" (Natal).—You are confusing Lloyd George with Lord George Bentinck, the fourth Duke of Portland, who has been dead for many years. The former keeps the cash-box of this dear old land.

C. E. P.—Very many thanks for the copy of the old issue of JOHN BULL containing an account of the Coronation of King George IV. We, however, have a set of our forerunner—the main object of whose existence, by the way, was to attack poor Queen Caroline.

MR. L. NATHAN informs us that 11, Walton Buildings, Calvert Avenue, Shoreditch, is now in his occupation, and that he knows nothing of the Anonymity Club which, as we stated, some time ago used that address. We have pleasure in publishing this disclaimer.

W. P. (Crosland Moor).—The prayer is seemly, but to say that those who break the chain by not writing it out and passing it on will meet with misfortunes, and those who do so will be saved from all calamities, is calculated to frighten superstitious people.

MRS. N. (West Kensington) suggests that in consequence of their letter-box outrages and false fire-alarms, the Suffragettes should henceforward be known as Suffragasses. Why insult the patient and intelligent donkey thus?

J. R. D. (Bexhill-on-Sea) informs us that as the Great Powers have failed to settle the Balkan trouble, he intends to take a hand in bringing about a Peace himself, as he finds he is "possessed of Spiritual Power." He had better not compete with the late W. T. Stead, or there might be trouble.

L. R. H. (Birmingham).—You say a man representing himself as being from a firm of tailors in Western Street, Sheffield, persuaded you to purchase some cloth for making an overcoat and a suit, promising that another member of the firm would presently call to take the measurements, but that he has not been. Having twice written to the firm and received no answer, you are "inclined to think there is something wrong." What are our Sheffield readers inclined to think?

A. M. (Clerkenwell).—You should not have private letters addressed to your place of business, not even your wife's, but this does not in the least excuse the manager of the works at St. Albans opening and reading them. Such conduct is inexcusable.

J. W. M. (Leeds).—We have made inquiries respecting the firm of Percy Coutts and Co., 235, High Holborn, and find that it is a very small concern, and we do not advise business relations with it.

"ESSEX TRAVELLER" complains of the automatic machines found on many of the Great Eastern Railway stations. According to his statement, the majority of them are little more than hollow mockeries so far as commodities are concerned, taking all and giving nothing in return. We think the G.E.R. would be well advised to make a thorough inspection of the machines.

"A SAILOR'S WIFE" (Plymouth) suggests that we must have received a snub from a sailor's wife at some time or other, because recently in these columns we took the trouble to advise a sailor how to obtain a divorce from his faithless spouse. Chivalry forbids our making the retort deserved.

G. W. (Deptford) tells us that, having being out of work for seven weeks, he applied to the local Distress Committee, who, after subjecting him to a long catechism and obtaining his seven years' reference, sent him a printed postcard entitling him to sweep snow *should there be a heavy fall*. We can quite believe that after receiving such treatment G. W. feels that he doesn't care if it snows ink.

L. R. (London, W.) writes: "Could you kindly recommend me to a teacher of stammering?" According to our observation, the quickest way to acquire the habit is to mix one's drinks, for which art no teacher is required.

"FID DEF" (Salop) "roasts" us for printing an alleged chestnut in a recent issue. He says "the tale—not the tail—is as mouldy as a rotten cab-bage." If it has been in his mind for as long as he makes out, we can quite understand it getting in that unpleasant condition. Our version, however, was fresh.

MRS. A. P. (Nottingham).—You make a mistake if you imagine that the self-styled Competition Solutionists are possessed of "brilliant brains." They are merely clever fellows at the game of extracting money from the easily gulled, who would do better by trusting to their own efforts. You ask how long a thrush lives. That depends upon the thrush, and where and on what it lives. Your own, for example, has hung on, in more senses than one, for eight years, and is still in full song.

S. R. A. B. (Hove).—The Universal Trading Co., of 43, Blenheim Road, London, N., are trick advertisers against whom we have frequently warned our readers. Their so-called Prize Competitions are a fraud.

"CINEMA" (Glasgow).—The offer made you by the Cowboy Cinema Plot Co., of 223, Clapham Road, London, S.W., is manifestly absurd, and we advise you to have nothing whatever to do with it. The tender of picture postcards at the conclusion of their letter excites our suspicion.

W. H. S. (Southampton) draws our attention to the following advertisement which appeared in the *Southern Daily Echo* recently: "LOST.—BAG, containing soiled linen and fruit. Anyone returning same to 346, Shirley Road, Southampton, will be rewarded." We should call that forbidden fruit.

"DEXTER" (Canning Town, E.) says it is strange that our "Bullets" first prize goes to a different place each week. In our opinion, it would be stranger still if it did not.

MISS (?) R. H. (W. Norwood) is quite cross with us for having commented pictorially in a recent issue upon a certain attempted railway outrage, which was assigned to madly malicious Suffragettes. She calls upon us to oblige her by correcting "this error" in our next issue. Using woman's logic, we must decline, on the grounds that it has not yet been proved that it was *not* the work of Suffragettes—besides persons who could attempt to set fire to a crowded theatre are obviously capable of the crime so universally attributed to them.

W. G. C. (Chelsea, S.W.) is dissatisfied with the quality of a dinner service for which he paid £1 10s. to the Century Pottery Co., of Burslem. Not having seen the goods, we cannot judge whether "W. G. C." has received value for money. He had better ask us to dinner.

W. H. H. (Aberystwyth) tells us that he has it on excellent authority that the ordinary tip given by Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill to the railway porters who wait upon them in the course of their various journeys is a modest twopence. Just think, however, of how the price of living has recently gone up!

W. M. (Leicester).—Judging from your experience of the Devonshire Hospital at Buxton in 1899, during the fourteen years that have passed there has been little improvement in the management of that institution.

Result of our FIRST Football Competition. See page 261.

F. O. (Ware).—You are a quarterly tenant, and liable to give a quarter's notice, but as the landlord has accepted the keys and put up a notice board that the premises are to let, you may be able to defend the case successfully if he sues you. You should, however, endeavour to come to an amicable settlement.

J. A. A. (Havant) relates how 15 or 16 years ago he had occasion to apply to Mr. Waugh, Superintendent Registrar of Cuckfield District, etc., etc. (whom we took the freedom to criticise in our issue of 4th Jan.) for a certificate of his birth, and duly received it in a properly stamped envelope. Apparently Mr. Waugh's courtesy has deteriorated.

"A. M. WISERNOW" (London, W.C.) tells us he recently had a horrible nightmare. Thought he was back in Canada, where on every hoarding was displayed the following placard:

Why Starve, Freeze, or Exist
In Canada
When you can get work in England
Under conditions that make
LIFE WORTH LIVING.
(*No booming or make-believe necessary.*)
For information, apply to—Mr. O'Couch Brown,
(*Emigration Dept.*),
Railway Co., Toronto.

We can imagine the rush, if there were assisted passages.

"SOUTH SHIELDS."—Strange as it seems, it is quite possible to have a telegraph message over the telephone. It is a new facility granted to telephone subscribers.

J. M. (Twickenham).—As the auctioneer put the two lots up in one, and you were the highest bidder, you are entitled to the goods. If he exceeded his authority, it is a matter to be adjusted between him and the seller and nothing to do with you.

"A BRITISHER" (Walthamstow) tells us that the cleaners employed by the L.G.O.Co. are expected to clean thoroughly twelve buses, inside and out (including 300 windows) every night of the week, for the magnificent wage of one guinea (less 4d. Insurance Tax) per week. We shall feel ashamed to mount a bus with our boots muddy after this.

MRS. E. H. (Balham Hill, S.W.).—We note that in his autobiography "Sacco," the fasting man, states that he was born in 1862, and at his recent marriage declared his age as 31. Perhaps the 20 years discrepancy represents the total duration of his fasts, which he leaves out when computing the length of his *life*—not his existence, mark you.

"ASWAY" (London, W.C.) suggests that we should omit the addresses of prize winners in our competitions to save them being pestered with circulars from "solution-mongers." That's all very well, but such a plan would invite suspicion as to the genuineness of the prizes. It would also enable prize winners to avoid treating their friends, which would be even more serious.

J. E. (Lingfield).—We know nothing against E. C. de Witt and Co., Ltd., of Rathbone Place, London, W., but the fact that they demand a permanent deposit of £2 as security, as well as three first-class references, before engaging a travelling sample-distributor, does not inspire us with overmuch confidence in them.

"DEEP THINKER" (London, N.W.) is so sensitive that it causes him intense anguish to witness anything in the way of cruelty to animals, and he asks us how he can acquire a sufficient degree of callousness to regard such sights with indifference. We cannot instruct him, never having acquired it ourselves. We would sooner recommend him to take lessons in the gentle art of boxing, so that he may mete out fitting punishment to the human fiends who wantonly torture dumb animals.

"BELFAST READER" (Belfast).—If you guarantee only the husband's rent, you are certainly not liable for that subsequently contracted by his widow. Keep up the traditions of Belfast—fight it out.

"NYTRAM" (London, S.E.) asks whether we consider the German State Lottery a genuine affair. Well, it's a lottery—and it's German.

H. W. (London, W.) asks: "What is the rate of interest per annum if A borrows from B £1, and pays 2s. 6d. per day interest—the £1 to be repaid at the end of 365 days?" Fool's interest.

J. W. S. (Winnipeg) writes us a friendly letter and concludes by asking us not to be too hard on him, as he is Scotch. We have no particular desire to add to his troubles. He has our sincere sympathy on the score of his living in Canada.

MISS E. L. B. (Gravesend).—We know of no home or other institution foolish enough to accept collections of used English penny and halfpenny postage stamps, and no-one so insane as to place more than waste paper value on them

A. D. (Euston Hotel).—You need not expect to get anything out of alleged money-lenders who profess to lend at 6 per cent. on note of hand alone. They are after you.

"CONSTANT READER" (Bradford).—As you had to issue a summons against H. May (trading as Norman & Co., Birmingham) and he paid the amount of your claim into court the day before the hearing of the action, he is liable for the costs incurred prior to such payment and as it was then too late to prevent your going to the expense of a journey to Birmingham, he must defray that amount also. As to whether it is worth while pursuing this man further, we must leave you to decide.

E. M. (London, N.W.).—Legal documents do not usually contain commas. Do you seriously suggest that the tenant can be deprived of the exclusive use of the domestic conveniences, because a comma is omitted? It is not as though it were a formal Act of Legislature. Perhaps you are thinking of the American case—where, by the substitution of a comma for a hypen in the compound word "fruit-trees," the States were flooded with tariff-free fruit, until the intention of the Government could be properly recorded by another Act. Estate agents usually charge a guinea or two guineas for drawing tenancy agreements; not 7s. 6d. You do want things done cheaply. The book by Heber Hart is the best on the law relating to auctioneers and estate agents, but we fear it is a little too deep for you.

A. J. K. (London).—A boarding-house proprietor is not liable for a boarder's property which has been stolen, unless it can be proved that it was lost owing to his gross negligence.

T. C. (Poplar).—We have frequently published articles on the Trading Stamp fakement. We look upon it as a sly system of catching unwary customers with an illusory use of imaginary benefits. For, whether they know it or not, customers pay for the stamps in the goods they buy either by way of inferior quality or deficient quantity. Traders don't give away something for nothing nowadays, except with the object of getting their own back, with interest, later on.

"WHITE SLAVE" (Hampstead), while dilating on the miseries of the milk-rounds man's life, declares that the public are deceived if they think that the afternoon milk on Sundays is any fresher than that sent round in the morning In this case customers might as well obtain their day's supply first thing, and thus ease the milkman's Sunday labours a little. We, at any rate, intend to forego our Sunday afternoon ha'porth.

R. T. (Forest Gate) wants to know why the Comptroller of H.M. Stationery Department has been knighted, and suggests that it might be for getting rid of 40 tons of Insurance literature that a certain firm of wastepaper dealers bought. The incidence of New Year and other honours always either amuses or puzzles us.

J. R. D. (Bexhill-on-Sea) says: "The Turks may remain in Europe, but out of Palestine they must go." Who's going to turn them out?

A. P. G. (Herne Hill).—Notwithstanding your eloquent defence, we still consider that you deserve the "Biscuit." Your heroine must indeed have been a girl of "surpassing beauty" if her loveliness passed right through the back of her head (and bun, we presume) and hit the hero so squarely in the eye. Alas that such beauty exists only in serial fiction!

"SANDY MCSWANKER" (Glasgow) confesses that "although living in Scotland nearly all his days, he never heard of haggis being eaten except at Burns dinners." He should drop in at the George Hotel in his own city, and make a few inquiries of the head waiter there.

J. R. W. (Folkestone).—We have heard your chestnut concerning the rabbit-skin from our office boy. He says you are *very* late.

C. E. S. (Harlesden, N.W.) asks us to insert an advertisement for a new Postmaster-General possessed, in accordance with Party traditions, of none of the qualifications requisite for the efficient performance of his duties. This would be a work of supererogation.

"A CONSTANT READER" (Leigh) wants to know whether Sir W. Treloar's cripples' hampers are bought from Williamsons, Ltd., of Brixton, and if he is in any way connected with the firm. It does not interest us. So long as the cripples are satisfied, we are. Besides, there is nothing in the point.

"ENTHUSIASTIC BULLITE" (Haggerston, N.E.) sends us a formulæ for making invisible ink. We thank him; but dare not publish it. Too much of our correspondence is pale to invisibility as it is.

H. S. H. (Piccadilly).—As the rent is payable monthly in advance you can sue immediately in the County Court for the first instalment and, if necessary, repeat the process monthly, or you can distrain on the furniture in the office—the fact that it belongs to the wife does not protect it from the landlord's right of distress. Your indiscretion in lending £10 to a comparative stranger does not entitle you to describe yourself as "a victim of the confidence trick." "A victim of your own folly" would be more correct.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

YOUR LAST CHANCE to Win £6 a Week for Life. See page 283.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see page* 288.]

The Stock Markets.

The Stock Markets had a *mauvais quart d'heure* towards the end of last week, when heavy realisations were forced from Paris in connection with the dissolution of an Anglo-French syndicate. There has since been a moderate recovery, and even American Rails are above the lowest, after having experienced a distinct slump on the Mexican battle royal, and on fears of United States intervention. Money is rather easier, and it is supposed that new issues will be kept back somewhat until the underwriters have placed some of the stock with which they have been landed. We shall not, of course, have much cheaper money until there is peace in the Near East, but that is likely to come about soon, when the hoarding of gold on the Continent will probably cease. Home Rails are steady on good dividends, but speculation is so far dead in this as in other departments. Canadian Pacifics have had a fall, but some of the Mexican stocks have rallied on hopes of a settlement of the trouble, chiefly, however, on "Bear" repurchases. Oil shares are quiet and Rubber shares are inactive, although young producers are still in favour with investors. The gamble in Ropp Mines is still going on, although at one time they fell heavily. The fact that the same people appear to be behind this concern as those who manipulated the Anglo-Continental so disgracefully naturally discourages speculation amongst the public. This latter concern has now to admit, on the testimony of its engineer, that the much-vaunted Jemaa lode and alluvial are unpayable, and the shares are below 1. Kaffirs are marking time, and in the Rhodesian market the issue of the Chartered Company's report is being awaited, as this is expected to call the tune in that section. With the assumption of office by M. Poincaré, the French President, the Paris Bourse will probably return to optimism, provided wars and rumours of war can be stopped.

The Day of Reckoning.

Three years have now elapsed since the rubber boom, and the bodies of numerous deceased wild cats rest in the Board of Trade cemetery in Carey Street. Hardly a week elapses without a Judge of the Chancery Court ordering an inquest to be held upon some wretched joint-stock freak, the latest specimen being the Lami River Rubber, Cocoa, and Banana Plantation, Ltd., against which Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady granted a compulsory order last week in a judgment which suggested in plain terms that somebody or other should be made to suffer for having brought this wastrel into existence. And there are others.

Prospectus Promises and Performances.

A reader has drawn our attention to a group of 1909-1910 promotions hatched in the offices of Messrs. Goodlet, Fairbairn and Berry, of 6, Broad Street Place, E.C. We have selected at haphazard some three or four out of a score, and, taking these as samples of the rest, the result is certainly disquieting. Take the case of the San Cristobal (Mexico) Rubber, Tobacco and Estates Co., Ltd., the prospectus of which was advertised in December, 1909, and which contained an estimate that the profits for 1910 would be £6,050; for 1911, £8,000; and for 1912, £10,250. The reference books contain no statement as to the past or present position of the company, its shares do not appear to be quoted nor do they find a place in the Stock Exchange Making-up List, and we do not think we are wrong in stating that no such profits have ever been earned. Taking next the case of the Peneiro Rubber Estates, Ltd., promoted in January, 1910, by this firm, we find that the prospectus estimates of profits were £4,000 for 1910, £4,800 for 1911, and £6,362 10s. for 1912. Here the reference books state "no profit and loss account presented," and the reports of the various meetings held by the company show that it is in a perilous state indeed, and that at one time it was obliged to compound with its creditors and the debenture holders by issuing to them preference shares in payment of their advances and claims. Here also the shares are not quoted, and, apparently, not "made up." Take next the Way-Halim (Sumatra) Rubber and Coffee Estates, Ltd., also promoted by Goodlet, Fairbairn and Berry, in 1910. Here the prospectus estimates of profits were, for 1910, £6,300; for 1911, £8,200; for 1912, £12,000. As a matter of fact, up to March 31, 1911, the profit was but £346, and for 1911-12, £736! These 2s. shares stand at 4½d. to 7½d. at the time of writing. Perhaps Mr. Fairbairn could enlighten us on some of these points.

London, Edinburgh and Glasgow, and Pearl Assurance Co's.

The amalgamation of the L.E. and G. with the Pearl has caused a good many heart burnings, and the end is not yet. The indignation which has been smouldering for so long a period is likely sooner or later to develop into a flame. Men who have given years of service to the upbuilding of a Company are not going to stand being cast adrift without knowing the reason why. Injustice, under whatever pretext it may be wrought, cannot be buried. It must find expression sooner or later.

Discharged after 23 Years' Service.

Mr. Thomas Calvert, late L.E.G. officer in London, Rawtenstall, Blackburn, and Liverpool, writing from 21, Vance Road, Blackpool, makes a somewhat serious indictment against the system which prevails, and points out after 23 years of honourable service he was given 14 days' wages and sent out of the office. He also says that he made repeated applications to the Company, without avail, requesting them to state a fault against him. He is now free and proposes organising a campaign which will extend to all parts of the country. He asserts that much dissatisfaction exists, and requests that all ex. L.E. and G. and Pearl agents, as well as present collectors, will communicate with him, in order that he may assist them to obtain better conditions of service.

George Beverley Again.

On May 11th, 1910, sitting at the Clerkenwell County Court, Judge Edge heard a case where Vincent Thomas Murche sued George Beverley for the return of some money he had paid him as the "Investors' Protection Association." The Judge said that he did not believe a word Beverley had said. He thought "plaintiff had done a great service to the community in showing up those skilled and clever frauds based upon the most careful consideration as to how the criminal law should be avoided. . . The whole thing reeked with fraud. . . It is the most barefaced fraud I have known, and I have no hesitation in saying so. To mark my appreciation of the character of the case I unhesitatingly give judgment for the plaintiff with costs upon the C scale. All the documents will be taken charge of by the Court, and I hope some public authority will move in the matter." No public authority moved and Beverley started a bucket-shop under the name of "Guthrie and Gunter," and a bogus underwriting firm called "Postlethwaite, Taylor and Knowles, Ltd., both of which came to grief. Another concern of his called the Incorporated Trust, however, survives, and it is with this that he is continuing his assaults upon the pockets of those who are ignorant of his antecedents. We trust our readers will be on their guard against this man and throw all his literature into the fire.

Industrial Assurance Debit System.

In a recent issue we referred to this question. A reader writes us stating the case from another standpoint. He says: Suppose a policy-holder pays a premium of 1s. a week for 12 years? During that period the Company would receive £31 4s., out of which the agent would take £7 0s. 9d., leaving the Company with £24 3s. 3d. Yet, notwithstanding this, if the policy should lapse through no fault of the poor agent, he must return the £7 0s. 9d. Our correspondent concludes, "I beg to ask, Is this honest?" The answer is in the negative.

Taverner Again.

Once more that egregious humbug, William Taverner, has been called upon to meet an application for his committal to prison on a charge of interfering with the Receiver appointed by the Court to wind up his National Old-Age Pension Trust. Lord Justice Farwell appears to have taken a most lenient view of Taverner's conduct, for he merely granted an injunction restraining him from continuing to advise shareholders to ignore the Receiver's applications for their contributions. But we should think that Taverner had better be very careful now. The next time he may not be let off so lightly.

A Query.

Rightly or wrongly, the members of the London Stock Exchange are not permitted to advertise, nor to send out circulars to persons who are not their clients. How comes it, then, that a list of investments, issued by Linton, Clarke and Co., of Pinner's Hall, Austin Friars, E.C., is being circulated by Cox and Co., the well-known bankers, amongst members of the Service Clubs?

Another Startling Football Skill Competition Next Week.

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.,

has recently been formed, with a capital of £250,000 divided into shares of £1 each, for the purpose of seriously exploiting, for the first time, the Oil lands of South Africa.

The Company has provided for a working capital of £50,000, and has acquired exclusive rights for working **Oil and all other Minerals**, for a period of ten years, over 150 square miles in the Ceres district, Cape Province—together with the option of acquiring the freehold of the properties at any time during that period.

Eminent Oil experts have certified to the petroliferous character of the ground.

Mr. Wm. W. Van Ness, for instance, says: "All these farms showed marked indications of the existence of Petroleum. On none did I find any indication of the strata being disturbed by the intrusive action of any igneous rock. Contraction has caused a folding of the strata from West to East, forming a series of synclines and anticlines, the troughs and ridges of which trend North and South. On farm Wagonsboom River, the lay of the strata is favourable to the accumulation of Oil in large quantities. **The formation is almost identical with the great Oil-producing fields of Allegheny, McKean, Warren and Venango Counties, Pennsylvania. I have no hesitation in recommending you to sink a well on farm Wagonsboom River. A pipe line could be constructed, over a natural gradient, to reach Cape Town from this farm within 100 miles.**"

Mr. Frank L. Chapman says: "The synclinal and anticlinal formation is very marked and regular, and nowhere did I find the slightest sign of any intrusive basaltic dykes or sheets, or the evidence of any igneous or eruptive action having taken place. The presence of the 'Rainbow Flake' so persistently and over such a large area is an all-sufficient reason for putting down a well in this locality. I consider the natural gas proof positive of the existence of Petroleum below, this being undoubtedly Petroleum gas, and not mere marsh gas. The formation of the country corresponds to that of the Oil regions of Pennsylvania and Ohio. Were this ground, as it now is, with merely these indications to go upon, in the States it would be split up into hundreds of lots, and would realise from £80 to £100 per acre, going to £500 per acre as soon as the first barrel of Oil had been produced."

THIS WOULD MAKE EACH £1 SHARE IN THE COMPANY WORTH £200.

Mr. Moris Mencher states: "I am convinced, after my examination of the country, that Oil exists in large quantities in the district of Ceres."

Mr. J. E. Mills Davies, referring to the iridescent films seen in the district, states that he investigated the question fully, with the result that he was satisfied that "their origin from hydrocarbon gaseous or oily compounds derived from Petroleum is a matter that cannot be doubted."

Mr. H. G. Hubbard states: "I collected some of the iridescent film and tested it. From the results given I unhesitatingly pronounce this film to be the result of condensation of the lighter bodies contained in the Petroleum, which escape in the form of gas. I am perfectly certain that these rainbow-coloured films are produced by Petroleum and nothing else."

Mr. W. Gasson, in concluding a "Report on Samples of Water and Deposit from Ceres District with regard to their bearing Petroleum or indications," says:—"The results of this examination clearly indicate that these samples are from Petroleum springs."

It will be seen that the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Limited, is embarking upon an enterprise of an altogether exceptional character, and that it may easily become one of the richest corporations in the world.

Full particulars of the Company may be obtained from the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Limited, 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, *52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.*

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

CHANNEL COAST AND MEDITERRANEAN FREEHOLD RESORTS.—A. H. (Leeds).—We understand that a dividend is about to be declared, and, in view of the latest reports, we should advise you to hold.——MRS. W. (Wallingford).—In view of dividend prospects we advise you to pay up the balance on your shares.

CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA.—E. K. (Dublin).—We think you will be quite safe in taking up the shares.

PETROL COMPANY.—A. H. (Tamworth).—We doubt whether this concern will be able to make any headway against the very powerful Combine, and consider it very speculative.

GALICIAN STANDARD OIL MINING CO.—A. O'B. (Hackney).—We think the Company has a good prospect of success.

FARROW'S BANK.—FIDDLESTICK.—Perfectly safe and reliable.

SAVINGS BANK.—FRANK W. (Middlesboro').—Put your money into the P.O. Savings Bank, or into one of the leading joint-stock banks on deposit, but do not go into Building Societies, under present conditions.

RENTS AS INVESTMENTS.—AN OLD READER (Failsworth).—We think you would be well advised to take the advice of a competent land surveyor before making the investment in question. As regards the question of future taxation, we cannot, of course, judge, but the anticipation has already hit the property market very badly.

DENTAL COMPANY.—R. P. G. (Isleworth).—We must confess never to have heard of this concern, and the proposed investment by no means appeals to us. Where is the security and who guarantees the interest? There is no market in the shares and is never likely to be, so that if you ever had occasion to sell you would find it a difficult task.

G. BEER, LTD.—FIAT JUSTITIA.—The only course is for the shareholders to combine in order to secure an inquiry into the working of the concern, and to obtain an infusion of fresh blood into the Board of management. We sympathise with you, but you cannot do anything by yourself.

AMERICAN RAILWAY.—DEUS.—It seems to us as if this would be throwing more good money after bad; but why don't you place yourself in communication with some of the larger shareholders and ascertain their views upon the matter?

GREAT COBAR.—PEARTREE.—The shares keep up well, but the market is somewhat uneasy as regards the delay in the publication of the independent engineer's report on the property. Watch the market carefully, and take a moderate profit when this is available.

MINING RECONSTRUCTION.—F. J. S. (Stoke-on-Trent).—Better await the result of the shareholders' movement before deciding. Probably the shareholders will be able to secure better terms for joining the reconstruction.

CUNLIFFE RUSSELL AND CO.—EBOR.—This firm are the largest dealers in premium bonds and their terms of business should just suit your requirements. Write to 10, Place de la Bourse, Paris, for their price list.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE CO.—X. Y. Z. (Leytonstone).—(1) You are entitled to the benefits set forth in your policy, and these are in no way affected by the National Health Insurance Act. You should insist upon the Medical Aid Benefit being continued, and if they should refuse to receive the premium, which you say you have paid regularly for sixteen years, we think you would be entitled to sue for the return of all premiums paid, on the ground that their refusal constitutes a breach of contract. (2) Having attained the age of 69, you are exempted from paying contributions. ——R. L. (Abertillery).—The allegations you make are of a somewhat serious character, and we could not publish them without proof. Consult a solicitor.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA LEGAL FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—S. B. F. (Kentish Town).—The policy makes no provision for the issue of a Free policy or the payment of a cash Surrender Value. The position at the moment is that the premiums, amounting to £18, which you have paid to the Society, are forfeited to them. Unless the Society will, as an act of grace, take your case into consideration, you are helpless and must lose all, unless you can claim a return of the premiums on the ground that you have subscribed to a policy which gives you no legal consideration for the moneys you have paid. Consult a solicitor. Is it any wonder, having regard to cases similar to yours, that Industrial Assurance, as at present administered, is growing in unpopularity, and that dissatisfaction with the system is rampant throughout the country?

ROYAL LONDON FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—L. D. H. (Wimbledon).—The policies, we observe, were issued in 1878 and 1897 respectively, and yet, notwithstanding the payment of premiums over so many years, the Society have definitely refused to grant either a Free policy or a cash Surrender Value. You cannot legally compel them to do so, and you must either continue paying or forfeit to the Society all the moneys you have contributed.——DOMINO (Leeds).—The policy on the life of your wife's father was illegal when issued, but the Act of 1909 legalises many insurance policies that were admittedly invalid because of the absence of insurable interest. The absence of knowledge on the part of the assured is not a sufficient ground for voiding the policy. You might be able to recover on the ground that you have been paying premiums for which no legal consideration has been given. If the policy is in the name of your father-in-law, and he has no knowledge of the assurance, how came his signature to be written on the proposal form? The present position so far as you are concerned is clearly unsatisfactory, and you should consult a local solicitor.

NATIONAL HEALTH ASSURANCE.—BATHONIAN.—Persons employed by you for the purpose of your business must be insured. The rate for men is 7d. per week. Of this sum your contribution is 3d., and the 4d. paid on behalf of the employee you may deduct from the wages. With respect to "unemployment insurance," for every workman over the age of 18 the weekly contribution will be 5d. Of this sum 2½d. will be your contribution and 2½d. your employee's for every week employed. Under the age of 18 the weekly contribution will be 2d., of which sum you will pay 1d., a like amount being paid by the workman. When the period of employment is two days or less, if the period does not exceed one day, the contribution will be 2d., half of which will be payable by you and half by the workman. If it exceeds one day, but does not exceed two, the contribution will be 4d., payable as before in equal parts. With this exception, every period of employment of less than a week must, for the purposes of contribution, be treated as though it were employment for a whole week. No contributions are payable in respect of a person under 16 years of age, nor in respect of persons who are not employed by way of manual labour. As regards the special point you raise, it may assist you when we state that insured contributors can only belong to one Approved Society, but for purposes other than those of the Act they may join as many as they please. If an insured person is already a member of a Trade Union, which is also an Approved Society, he is not debarred from continuing his membership. In either case he would receive the National Insurance benefits through the Society, the Society being a distributor for the Government so far as insurance benefits are concerned. If the insured person pays any contribution, whether as an old member or as a new one, to the Society itself, it will be at his own option, and by way of providing benefits other or larger than those of National Insurance—such as increased sick pay, funeral benefit, payment during first three days of illness, etc. For example, many of these Societies for about 3d. per week will offer substantial advantages of this nature, and larger benefits to those who choose to pay higher sums. The Societies will arrange that persons who have been their members before the Insurance Act, and who remain members, will receive enhanced benefits in consideration of their past membership. On the whole, therefore, and in the light of this explanation, you will probably agree that the contention of your workmen is not far wide of the mark.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—DEFICIT.—We consider that the appointment of a medical referee should be made without the obligation to insure. In your case it was promised that the amount of the policy premium would be covered by the fees. This has not proved so. In addition, the suggestion that you would be the sole medical referee has also failed. We do not suppose the directors had knowledge of these conditions or assented to them, and whilst a Company is, as a general rule, bound by the representations of its agents, you would have to prove that it was on the faith of such representations that the policy was applied for and maintained in force, to enable you to successfully sue for the return of the premiums paid. It is open for you to have the subject discussed by the Medical Council of your district, or to present your case to the directors through your solicitor.——H. G. V. (Bristol).—We consider you have just cause for complaint in having been put to so much trouble to establish your claim for the payment of an additional 24s., owing to the mistake in stating the age of the assured at the time the policy was taken out. Write the Head Office and address the Joint Managing Directors, marking the envelope "private," when doubtless the matter will receive attention and be settled to your satisfaction.

LAW FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY.—UNCAS.—Quite safe for any risk it is prepared to undertake.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—R. B. C. (Peckham).—As the certificate only provides for partial assurance cover in the event of death before maturity, namely, 22 per cent. of the certificate plus the return of the premiums paid, it is difficult to assess the value from a purchaser's standpoint, but we doubt if you could obtain a figure much in excess of the Surrender value, which we assume is granted, and stated, under the Certificate Conditions.

NATIONAL BENEFIT, LIFE AND PROPERTY ASSURANCE CO.—T. R. (Grimsby).—The change of name in no way affects your legal position as a bondholder. Under the terms of the Bond, which you say is fully paid, you cannot withdraw the moneys you have contributed. You must therefore retain the Bond until a claim arises or it reaches maturity. If you can afford to take up a short Life Endowment Assurance policy, and the Company will credit the amount of the fully-paid Bond as an addition to the sum assured, that course would be more advantageous to you.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CO.—W. B. (Derby).—We note that the claim of £6, and for which 10s. 6d. was offered, has been paid in full, and that the poor woman whose case you brought to our notice is now satisfied.——J. S. A. (Groves).—We should recommend you to see the local superintendent. State your case to him and ask him to advise as to your position.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO.—W. T. B. (Taunton) tells us that the Company have acted liberally in regard to a dispute between a friend of his and themselves. We are pleased to hear it.——A. C. (York).—The policies in question are illegal and the premiums paid are recoverable. You should write to the Head Office demanding the money, and if the Company refuse to pay, sue them in the County Court.——G. M. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The money cannot be claimed at the death of the person assured, as your son had no insurable interest in the life.——H. M. A. (Hornsey).—You cannot demand a cash surrender on any of the policies, but the superintendent of your district could obtain it for you if he would.——R. E. (Gracetown).—The amount offered as surrender value is according to their scale, and although it is a poor return for your money, you cannot claim more.

(A number of replies are held over).

Turn to page 261 for Results of our FIRST Football Competition.

A "JOHN BULL" OFFER.

NEWSPAPER'S £5 NOTE.

An enterprising Journal recently offered a £5 note to the highest bidder, just to test the selling powers of the paper. Whilst the note was eventually disposed of for £4 10s., a number of applicants treated the offer as a huge joke.

A well-known firm of tailors, Messrs. H. Thomas & Co. of 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., offer to make a Gent's Complete well-made stylish Suit to measure for only 15s. 6d. Whilst this offer, which is made only to "John Bull" readers and is therefore termed a "John Bull" offer, is no less startling than the paper's offer of a £5 note, it is perfectly honest, and made by a responsible firm.

The materials are good, which you can see before ordering as samples are sent free, and a guarantee is given that if not entirely satisfactory goods are given, money is returned in full.

Send a post-card or call to-day for patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. Mention "John Bull," for these 15s. 6d. measure garments are essentially "John Bull" offers. See offer underneath.

A COMPLETE, UP-TO-DATE,

GENT'S SUIT 15/6

ADVERTISING OFFER TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

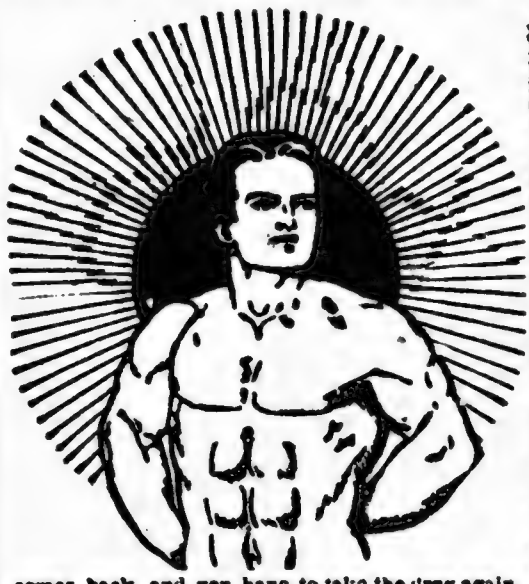
We realise that to make you a customer we must go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a stylish, well-tailored Complete Suit for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—to measure, too, remember. Other prices 19s. 6d., 23s. 6d., up to 40s.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an advertising offer absolutely, and send us to-day merely a postcard for large range of patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. The materials will bear the closest scrutiny—then we fit you to your satisfaction or refund money. Why say more? Can we do more? Mention "John Bull" for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & Co., 142, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.

ELECTRICITY THE GREAT HEALER.

Nature's Mysterious Force Performing New Wonders.



Take electricity if you want to get well. It's a lot easier to take than drugs, and it cures where drugs don't. People used to think that the right way to cure pain or illness of any kind was to swallow a lot of drugs. That was just a habit. Now almost everyone knows that drugs are only poison.

To cure anything you must help Nature. Drugs don't do that. Nature will cure when she has the power. That power is electricity. Drugs work against Nature.

You take a drug to stop pain and it can only stop it by stupefying the nerves. When the stupor passes off, the pain comes back, and you have to take the drug again. Every dose weakens your nerves. If your stomach fails to work properly, from lack of strength, you force it to act by powerful stimulants. That ruins your stomach in a short time. The same applies to all other organs.

Electricity gives nourishment, strength to your body. If your stomach is weak, give it electricity, which will enable it to do its work properly. If you have a pain, remove it for ever by giving electricity to the part that causes the pain. If your nerves are weak, give them electricity, which is nerve food, nerve life. No pain or weakness can resist electricity.

The "Ajax" Battery does this. It saturates the nerves with electric life, and they carry the force to every organ and tissue of the body, giving health and strength to every part. It is a body battery (not an electric belt) and never needs charging, for it makes its own power.

WE GIVE IT FREE!

Get our 80-page illustrated book, which tells in plain language many things you want to know, and gives a lot of good, wholesome advice for men. Call for a free test if you can, or we'll post you the book at once, in a plain envelope free. So write now, at once.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE,
(*Dept.* 41), 25, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.

FOOTBALL DRAW.

The drawing was supervised by the Special Representative of "John Bull" and by Mr. W. Lotinga, Editor of "Lotinga's Weekly," and for many years, until recently, "Larry Lynx" of "The People." These gentlemen wrote down, and took away with them complete lists of the drawn numbers, together with the names and addresses of the winners.

£500 FOR THE WINNER

The following sixteen clubs still remain in the Cup. The eight defeated in the third round will each receive £5. The four defeated in the fourth round will each receive £10. The two defeated in the semi-finals will each receive £20. The club defeated in the final takes £100. The smaller prizes, amounting to £630, have already been paid. It was only after the most careful enquiries that the editor of "John Bull" stated February 1st: "We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that, from beginning to end, each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and above-board."

Name of Club.	Ticket No.	Purchaser's Name and Address.
Aston Villa	H 17129	J. Richards, 9, Shannon Grove, Brixton, S.W.
Blackburn	C 21049	W. Ellis, West Bolton Tavern, Norland near Halifax.
Bradford	C 51179	H. Batherton, 12 Dean Street, Langley Mill, Notts.
Bristol Rovers	B 1015	R. K. Batcson, Matshead, nr. Garstang, Lancs.
Burnley	C 49614	W. K. Kaynes, 28, Northampton Street, Canonbury, N.
Crystal Palace.....	E 6651	Miss E. M. Jesties, Buttington, Welshpool.
Everton	A 57412	Mrs. S. H. Brown, 5, Fleming Square, Maryport, Cumberland.
Liverpool	C 13234	W. McLennan, "Football Arms," Hill Pace, Edinburgh.
Manchester United....	E 29876	G. Singleton, 47, Raglan Rd., Bishopston, Bristol.
Middlesbrough	B 55863	Miss Lucas, Gildredge Hotel, Eastbourne.
Newcastle United	H 51383	"Spider," 39, Fairlawn Avenue, Chiswick, W
Oldham Athletic.....	D 50828	C. Spain, 19, St. James' Square, London, S.W.
Reading	D 28864	R. Addison, "Sun Inn," Flimby, Maryport Cumberland.
Sheffield Wednesday ..	C 31969	T. Martin, Moorings Lodge, Sunningdale, Berks.
Sunderland	A 52799	J. Dixon, 149, Albert St., Milloin, Cumberland.
Swindon	E 51724	S. Gaythwaite, "Greyhound Inn," Cleator Moor, Cumberland.

H. DIAMOND, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

LETTER POSTAGE 2½d. POSTCARDS 1d.

£1,720 FOR BULLETS!

PRIZE MONEY AGAIN INCREASED!

This week we are increasing our THIRD PRIZE to £25. This increases the value of our prizes to the magnificent sum of £1,720.

FIRST PRIZE - - £400

PRIZES VALUE £1,720

SECOND PRIZE - - - - £50
THIRD PRIZE - - - - £25
Ten Prizes of £2 10s. each.
A Large Number of £1 and 10s. Prizes,
200 Prizes of 7/6
AND
5,000 OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES.

PRIZES VALUE £1,720

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

CAN'T SAY NO	IN A RAGE	CONSUMPTION	VERY SMART	LIMELIGHT
BRITISH PLUCK	ARDENT LOVER	SOUTH POLE	BAD EGG	MARIE LLOYD
CASH	BLACK EYE	MOST FORTUNATE	HER DUTY	DEFAULTING CASHIER
NAUGHTY BOY	IMPOSSIBLE	PATENT MEDICINE	MY OLD MAN	WHERE SHOE PINCHES
AWKWARD FIX	EASY PAYMENTS	FIRST SWEETHEART	EASY CHAIR	DIVORCE COURT
HARD OF HEARING	WONDERFUL	FOOTBALL PLAYERS	POISON	FAST ASLEEP
THE STRAND	BLUE ENVELOPE	SECOND WIFE	DOMESTIC SERVANTS	STARVATION
TIME	A DONKEY	MADE IN ENGLAND	WHEN OLD	KING ALFONSO.

IMPORTANT.

EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "DOMESTIC SERVANTS" and take the letters "D" and "S," using the word "to" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "DIFFICULT TO SECURE." Or from the example "BAD EGG," the Bullet "BOARDERS DISLIKE" can be formed. Again, if you take the example "CASH," using the letter "S" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "So RACKELY SOUGHT."

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence, but if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent

Closing date, Wednesday, Feb. 26th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(21) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

Closing date, Wednesday, Feb. 26th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(21) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 21," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on this page, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed. _____ & Co Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, February 26th, 1913.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

RESULT OF EIGHTEENTH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £350:—

Mrs. AGNES M. MAYO,
4, Milly Street, Urmston, Manchester.
Example:—SEVERE PUNISHMENT.
Bullet:—MADE OLIVER "TWIST."

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. SIDNEY DICK,
484, Romford Road, Forest Gate, London, E.
Example:—WITHOUT MONEY.
Bullet:—MOSTLY FINANCIAL EXPERTS.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:—

Mr. HARRY JAMES,
11, Mount Pleasant Street, Pontnewydd, Mon., Wales.
Example:—WHISPERS OF LOVE.
Bullet:—SENSE IN SUSPENSE.

TEN Prizes of £2 10s. are awarded as follows:

ARTHUR COOMBS, 7, Kerrycroy Street, East Moors, Cardiff (ALL ORDER—DISCOVERING OPTIMISTIC AGRICULTURIST). H. H. COCKETT, 72, Hanbury Street, London, E. (WHY COOK LEFT—FAMILY'S MONTHLY TOPIC). ARTHUR MORETON, 12, Amesbury Road, Cardiff (YES—SCARCE, SOLICITING SUBSCRIPTIONS). A. H. DAVIDSON, 12, Lawton Road, Leyton, E. (BRITISH PUBLIC—LAWYERS—AND US). FRED SIMMONDS, 8, Larch Road, Cricklewood, N.W. (BEST AVOIDED—ENGLAND, CHRISTOBEL THINKS). Mrs. E. CRAIK, 4, Kelvinside Gardens East, Glasgow (WANTED A MAN—DO TAKE MINE). S. PARTRIDGE, 28, Rossett Road, Great Crosby, Liverpool (MOST TEMPTING—TOPMOST APPLES GENERALLY). Mr. JAS. HARRINGTON, 85, Salisbury Road, Harrow-on-Hill (WHY COOK LEFT—WHISTLE—INSIDE TART). Mrs. R. Hodgins, Dilkusha, Brundall, near Norwich (SEVERE PUNISHMENT—HIRED PIANO SUSTAINS).

£2 10s. divided between the following:

I. W. BALFOUR, 65, Marlborough Avenue, Hull (WHY COOK LEFT—HER JOINTS FAILED); Mrs. A. BATES, North Collingham, Newark, Notts (WHY COOK LEFT—HER JOINTS FAILED).

10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

BULL, G. H., Hildern, Shrewsbury Road, Shifnal, Salop.
CARNEY, P., 165a, Briggate, Leeds.
CLARK, G., Offchurch, Leamington Spa.
DUNN, M., Miss, 437, Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester.
HOWARD, J., 100, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.
LANGLEY, J., Mrs., 52, Windsor Road, Penarth, Glam.
LEPHARD, Mrs., 237, Pershore Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
SMITH, W. H., 30, May Street, Hamilton, N.B.
TAYLOR, J. H. G., 86, Parliament Hill Mansions, N.W.
WHITE, A. B., 25, Fleetwood Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea.

20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

ALLEN, Mrs. L., The Avon, Portslade-by-Sea.
BULFORD, Miss M., Hucknall, Nottingham.
BURNS, W., 83, King Edward Street, Regent Road, Salford, Lancs.
EVANS, D., Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe, near Halifax.
FINE, S., 44, Zetland Road, Bristol.
FORREST, R., 94, Church Lane, Tooting, S.W.
GAINEY, Miss M., 3, Benet Place, Cambridge.
GOTHARD, A., Bennett Lane, Leeds Road, Dewsbury, Yorks.
HAMMOND, Mr., Manager, London Central Meat Co., Ltd., Church Street, Holbeach, Lincs.
HOOKER, W., Arcadia Theatre, High Street, Sheerness.
KING, Mrs., Maenclochog House, Llanreath, Pembroke Dock.
MACKAY, WM. C., 65, Tassie Street, Shawlands, Glasgow.
MELVILLE, R., 704, Gallowgate, Glasgow.
PATERSON, W. T., 48, Polton Street, Bonnyrigg, Midlothian.
SPENCER, C., Rose Farm, Wren Green, near Kirkham, Lancs.
TYERMAN, E. G., 52, Granville Road, Middlesbrough.
VARE, A., 18, Railway Road, King's Lynn.
WALSH, L., 13, Kilnhouse Lane, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs.
WEBB, L. E., Ashdene, St. Patrick's Road, Coventry.
WRIGHT, S., 75, Edith Grove, Chelsea, S.W.

LIST OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 18.

A Selection from the List of 3,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mrs. Bull," dated March 1st.

Alexander, C. W., Junr., 51, Wear-st., Jarrow-on-Tyne, Co. Durham.
Allen, R., 183, High-st., Southampton.
Allen, J. T., 1, Church-lane, Liversage-st., Derby.
Almond, Annie, 63, Richmond-ter., Darwen, Lancs.
Ardbman, John, 110, Lauriston-place, Edinburgh.
Armitage, A., 71, Barker-st., Lozells, Birmingham.
Attrill, W. H., 43, Hunny-hill, Newport, I.W.
Averill, Miss L., 238, Lozells-rd., B'ham.
Ball, J., 11, The Parade, Folkestone.
Barbour, J. M., 4, Auckland-ter., Ramsay, I. of M.
Barton, John, 63, Lower Hipper-st., Chesterfield.
Bateman, F., 16, Devon-st., Hull.
Bates, P., Oak Lodge, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
Batts, F. R., Marlborough-pl., Banbury, Oxon.
Bell, G., 12, Preston-rd., Leytonstone.
Bennett, Mrs., 35, Tavistock-st., Bedford.
Bennett, F. H., 4, Montpelier-ter., Northbrook, Worthing.
Bennett, W., 1, Dollis-park, Church End, Finchley, N.
Berger, A., 181, Newport-rd., Middlesbrough, Yorks.
Bolton, T., 35, Liverpool-rd., Islington, N.
Bower, F. T., 49, Station-rd., Halfway, Sheffield.
Braithwaite, H., 129, Phillip-st., Hoole, Chester.
Brennan, Mrs. E., 499, Weelsby-st. South, Grimsby, Lincoln.
Brentnall, J., Buglawton, Congleton, Cheshire.
Brettell, F., 12, Primrose-lane, Burton-rd., Leeds.
Brewer, C. S., c/o Stewart, 18, Castle-st., Edinburgh.
Brock, E., 58, Bonner-rd., Victoria Park, N.E.
Brown, D., 24, Crescent, Alexandria, N.B.
Bryant, E., Lawnside, Great Malvern.
Bull, A. E., 12, Greenham-rd., Muswell Hill, N.
Bull, W., 31, Genge-st., Port Talbot, S. Wales.
Burton, Mrs. E., 31, Wolsey-av., East Ham, E.
Callaghan, P., 26, Packington-st., Stoke, Devonport.
Clark, P. L., 630, Streatham High-rd., S.W.
Clarke, H., 16, Third-av., Forest Town, Mansfield, Notts.
Clarkson, John, 100, Westminster-rd., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
Cliff, Sergt. B., The Cameronians, Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow.
Clutterbuck, T. G., 6, Boyces-av., Clifton, Bristol.
Corr, Mrs E., 47, Westbourne-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.
Craig, J., 222, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Cross, T., 231, Anlaby-rd., Hull.
Creed, R. W. R., 80, Lower Leeson-st., Duolin.
Daniels, A., 3, Glade-st., Bolton, Lancs.
Darling, Florence, 8, Lansdowne-rd., Croydon.
Davies, R., 108, Aldergrove-rd., Porth, Glamorgan.
Davies, F., 21, Rodney-st., Swansea, Glam.
Dawes, R. J., 1, Mildred-av., Boreham Wood, Elstree, Herts.
Day, Florence, Schoolhouse, Gt. Canfield, Dunmow, Essex.
Deacon, F. L., 2 Redcliffe-gdns., Southsea.
Deason, Emmeline, 103, Newport-rd., Leyton, E.
Dench, F. W., 23, Holbrook-rd., West Ham, E.
Denison, W., Arnside, Kendal.
Dennison, H., 22, Chaucer-st., Mansfield.
Dodd, Geo., 6, Bath-st., Barrow-in-F'ness
Donald, F., Whitelawston, Liff, Dundee.
Downing, A. L., 27, High-st., Smethwick.
Dunford, H., 25, Woodlands-av., Wanstead, N.E.
Eager, E. H., 69, Wilton-av. Southampt'n.
Eames, W. A., 4, Amoy-st., Bedford-place, Southampton.
Edwards, J., 35, High-st., Sandgate, Kent.
Eyre, H., 8, Newcombe-rd., Earlsdon, Coventry.
Fearman, W. F., 2, Dashwood-rd., Stroud Green, N.
Florence, Miss F., 109, Byrne-rd., Balham, S.W.
Fox, Mrs., 24, Queen's-av., Blackhall, Midlothian.
Fox, G., 11, Eastfield-st., Sunderland.
Francis, R., 9, Leicester-grove, Leeds.
Free, J. R., 71, Castle-st., Farnham, Surrey.
Freebody, J., 60, Wilton-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.
Furlong, A. C., 30, Haverhill-rd., Balham, S.W.
German, Mrs., Fox Hotel, Walnut-grove, Liverpool.
Gibbons, A. J., 105, Vyse-st., Birmingham.
Gould, A. A., 9, Dunster-gdns., Brondesbury, N.W.
Grey, Miss, c/o Mr. Elkington, 11, Belgrave-rd., West Ham.
Grimett, Corp. C., Barracks, Beverley, Yorks.
Guinness, P., Cromer, West Grove, Woodford Green, Essex.
Hainsworth, Mrs., 33, Saxe Weimar-rd., Southsea, Hants.
Hakeman, J., Prospect House, East End-rd, East Finchley, N.
Hall, Mrs A., 72, Membury-rd., Saltley, Birmingham.
Hall, Miss A., 53, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.
Hamilton, R. H., St. Aubyn's, Cromer.
Hanson, Edith, 11, Lessingham-av., Tooting, S.W.
Harwood, G. C., Bank House, Belmont, Surrey.
Heard, Mrs. F. E., 48, Argyle-rd., Ilford, Essex.
Heatley, J., Melrose House, Charfield, Glos.
Heilbron, L., 35, Fulwood-rd., Liverpool.
Henderson, J. W., Kinroull Manse, Perth.
Hill, W. G., 42, Howitt-rd., H'mpst'd, N.
Huckins, C. H., Castlethorpe Mill, Stony Stratford, Bucks.
Humphreys, W. E., 24, De Burgh-st., Cardiff.
Hurst, G., 34, Larch-st., Leicester.
Imison, E. H. (S.B.A.), R. Naval Hosp'l, South Queensbury, West Lothian.
Jackson, A., 2, Bungalow, Pondcroft-rd., Knebworth Stn., Herts.
Jerrim, E. F., 4, Spring-rd., Sholing, Southampton.
Jones, J. W., Bungalow, Coed-Ely, Tonyrefail, Glam.
Jones, S. H., 4, Frazer-st., Workington, Cumberland.
Keeley, W. R., 24, Great Earl-st., St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Ketteridge, S. M., 14, Old Millgate, Manchester.
Knipe, E. A., 37, Manor-rd., West Ealing, W.
Lamb, F., 18, Market-place, Kingston, Surrey.
Lawrence, E. H., 66, Gigant-st., Salisbury, Wilts.
Leech, H., 89, Elphinstone-rd., Walthamstow.
Leggett, J. A., Tarrant-st., Arundel, Sussex.
Luther, John, 80, Oxton-rd., Birkenhead, Cheshire.
Leng, G., 53, Avon-st., Upper Stoke, Coventry.
Lennard, Louie, 123, Sable-rd., Smethwick, Birmingham.
Levy, H. R., 9, Dorset-st., Baker-st., W.
Liddington, R., 9, Moultrie-rd., Rugby.
Littleton, J. A., Mayfair, Skelty-ave., Swansea.
Lloyd, C., 75, Windsor-rd., Holloway-rd., N.
Logan, J., Rathmines College, Dublin.
Longdon, A. J., 36, Bedford-st., Derby.
Maidment, A., 5, Cae Gorlan-st., Abercarn, Newport, Mon.
Malcolm, H. E., 37, Finboro-rd., South Kensington.
Mayers, H., Junr., 42, Trefoil-ave., Shawlands, Glasgow.
Macdonald, J., 12, Park-ter., South Shields.
Mackellow, H., 18, Wilton-rd., Bexhill.
McCorquindale, A., 16, Mess, H.M.S. Cyclops, Berehaven, Bantry.
McLaren, D., 35, Arabian-rd., Brockley, S.E.
Mears, Miss M., 16, Carleton-rd., Tufnell Park, N.
Meek, W., 89, Heythorp-st., Southfields, S.W.
Mills, Geo., 6, Comely Green-place, Edinburgh.
Mitchell, D. B., c/o McColl, 22, Regent Moray-st., Overnewton, Glasgow.
Moffatt, W. G., Cateswell-rd., Hall Green, Birmingham.
Moore, B., 76, Green Lanes, Newington Green, London, N.
Morton, Alice, 33, Staunton-st., New Cross, S.E.
Orr, Miss A., 180, Helmsley-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Orenden, E. H., 13, Longport-st., Canterbury, Kent.
Parker, J. W., c/o The Surgery, Penydarran, Merthyr Tydfil.
Paul, Y. Cp., H.M.S. Lancaster, Devonport, c/o G.P.O.
Peace, R., 67, St. Michael's-ave., Belgrave, Leicester.
Peace, Jenny, Music House, Thornhill, Dewsbury.
Peacock, Mrs. A., 42, Dore-ave., Manor Park, E.
Phillips, A. R., Hurst View, Brighton-rd., South Croydon.
Polden, F. S., 18, Hanover-bldgs., Southampton.
Porter, S., 307, Hagley-rd., Birmingham.
Probert, J., 55, St. Oswald's, Liverpool. E.
Quick, T., Grange Villa, Chapel-st., Belper, Derbyshire.
Ramsden, H., 14, Montgomery-st., Roath Park, Cardiff.
Rea, F., 41, Navarre-rd., East Ham, E.
Rigelsford, W. J., 15, Alexandra-rd., St. Leonards-on-Sea.
Relf, R., 10, Danby-st., Peckham.
Richards, J. H., 90, Rodenhurst-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.
Rider, F. A., 189, Upper Kennington-lane, Vauxhall, S.E.
Roberts, H. L., 18, Castle-st., Conway, North Wales.
Robinson, R., 96, Goldsmith-ave., Acton, W.
Roper, R., 10, Hope-st., North Marine-rd., Scarborough.
Rowe, H., 36, Orwell-rd., Upton Park, E.
Royle, W. C., 68, Pall Mall, S.W.
Ryan, T., Infantry Record Office, Barracks, Cork.
Sarchet, H., Mansellville, Rouge Hill-ave, Guernsey.
Savage, A. E., 83, Dudley-rd., Grantham, Lincs.
Scutt, W. D., 1, Willow Grove-rd., Leeds, Yorks.
Shaw, T., 2, Beaverwood-rd., Chislehurst.
Shepherd, W. H., 7, Old Square, Warwick.
Shrives, W. A., 43, King-st., Maidenhead, Berks.
Simpkins, Miss E., 31, Shakespeare-cres., East Ham, Essex.
Smith, M. J., 85, Crowdale, Durham.
Somerset, H., 13, Ashburnham-rd., Willesden, N.W.
Stephens, A., Hairdresser, 18, Stapleton-rd., Bristol.
Stevens, W., 154, Upper Fant-rd., Maidstone.
Stone, Mrs R. H., 27, Married Quarters Fort Elizabeth, Cork.
Stringer, W. F., 270, North-st., Ashton Gate, Bristol.
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Swinnerton, G. W., 192, Chase Side, Old Southgate, N.
Talbot, E. R., Torridge House, Burnham Somerset.
Taylor, J. E. C., 12, Princes'-rd., Gt Yarmouth.
Taylor, A., Market Lavington, Devizes.
Taylor, J., Springfield, Peterhead, N.B.
Thomas, A., 35, Dorchester-grove Chiswick, W.
Thompson, W., 9, Lord-st., Garston Liverpool.
Thomson, M., 39, George IV. Bridge Edinburgh.
Thornton, F. W., 51, Islington-rd., Southville, Bristol.
Threlfall, G. E., 57, North Lonsdale-st. Stretford, Manchester.
Tibbetts, Mrs. H., Craig-y-don, Sweet Pool-lane, West Hagley, Stourbridge.
Tilley, Mrs. A. H., 39, Wilmington-sq., Clerkenwell, W.C.
Tod, A. G., 4, Duke's-ter., Aldershot, Hants.
Tubman, I., c/o Queen's Head, Harrington.
Turner, W. J., 178, Lightwoods-rd., Bearwood, Birmingham.
Tytherleigh, G. F., 35, Finchley-rd., Kennington, S.E.
Vass, A. H., 155, Tulse Hill, S.W.
Vaux, E., Picknell, 14, Earl's Court-rd., Kensington.
Waghorn, Mrs. C., Station Hotel, East Croydon.
Wallis, W., 4, River Head, Driffield, E. Yorks.
Ward, W., 35, Alderson-st., Whit-lane, Pendleton, Manchester.
Ward, Mrs. V., 7, Harrington-st., Pear Tree, Derby.
Warner, A., Red Leaf, Penshurst.
Warnett, T., Woodlands Farm, Gillingham, Kent.
Waterhouse, J., 22, Hampton-rd., Teddington.
Weeks, F. G., Whitchurch, Hants.
Weller, C., 18, Berners-st., London, W.
West II, Miss M., Bishopton-lane, Stockton-on-Tees.
Williams, C. H., 4, Alphington-st., Exeter.
Williams, H., 23, East India Dock-rd., Limehouse, E.
Whelpton, Mrs., 60, North Warren-rd., Gainsborough, Lincs.
White, J. R. D., 34, Deepdale-rd., Rotherham.
Wood, H., 15, Junction-rd., Basingstoke, Hants.
Woollett, A. E., Norman Croft, Elm-rd., Sidcup.
Wright, A., 144, John-st., Aberdeen.
Young, R., Silveral, Alton-rd., Paisley.

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Racing Notes.

Prophetic.

Lingfield on Wednesday and Thursday followed by Kempton Park on Friday and Saturday, are the meetings for consideration this week. At Lingfield to-day (Wednesday) Violet Charlesworth should win the Southern Steeplechase; Sir Abercorn the Past and Present Naval and Military Steeplechase; and Gotham the Gravetye Hurdle. On the second day the best thing appears to be

Schoolmoney

for the Hever Hurdle. The Gentlemen Riders' Hurdle should be pretty good for Jaseur, whilst Grayling IV., on recent running, should take the Novices' Steeplechase.

At Kempton Park on Friday and Saturday fine programmes are down for negotiation. On the first day back Cooldreen if he is at length slipped in the Middlesex Steeplechase; Quinton ought to win the Trial Steeplechase. After his recent fine win on the same course,

Elstead

should be good to back for the Rendlesham Hurdle, whilst Moscato has an undoubted chance in the Thames Hurdle. On Saturday Henry Winkfield ought to win the Littleton Hurdle. Follow

Colonist

in the Bushey Park Hurdle. He has won on the course, and ran very well on Saturday behind Gael Rhu. The Portlane Steeplechase should go to the Royston stable, probably by means of Agnes M.

SPORTING REPLIES.

Grand National Sweepstakes.—Bona.—The firms we specially recommend are H. Diamond, Lucerne; Smallman and Terry, Geneva; and Leslie Murray and Co., Binnengen, the latter, who are newcomers, bringing with them a high reputation for business integrity.

Thomas Batt (London).—In a recent reply to J. T. B. (Northampton), through a printer's error the name of the bookmaker appeared as Batt instead of Butt. Mr. Thomas Butt, of 6, Rood Lane, Fenchurch Street, has called upon us and satisfied us that the correspondent in question is a defaulter who was posted some few months ago. He has further satisfied us that his business is conducted on respectable lines.

Leslie Murray and Co. (Binningen).—F. S. (Oxford).—This is an eminently respectable firm, and we understand the point you raised has been cleared up. Apparently your coupon did not contain the name of the town in which you reside.

Carlton Sports Club (Montreux).—J. H. (Bedlington).—The use of our name by these people is quite unauthorised and is very misleading.

White, Fisher and Co.—J. J. (Pwllheli).—A respectable firm. Their address is 5, rue du Commerce, Geneva, and they will doubtless give you the information for which you ask.

THE "JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.

A MODEL SWEEPSTAKE—£1,000 FOR CHARITIES.

There is one sporting event which stands out as being of universal popularity and undying interest, and that, it is needless to say, is the English Derby. In no matter what part of the Empire, or wherever a group of Englishmen are gathered together, the result of this great race is the absorbing topic of conversation for weeks before it is run, and the chances of every candidate are examined by the light of previous form, training reports or private information, by many who have never seen and never will see any race, much less the Derby, and who at no other time would think of speculating a shilling on such an event.

It is hardly worth while criticising the view of our paternal legislators, which forbids sweepstakes in this country. In this matter, we stand alone amongst the nations. Look at France, with the whole of the speculation on races controlled by the State, and the proceeds of the "Kitty" applied to the clothing, feeding and education of the unfortunate and helpless poor—the castaway foundling and helpless orphan! Is not this idea nearly as intelligent as that of squandering the public money and exhausting the resources of the police to work up cases against some wretched little street bookmaker—or raiding a fashionable club? But this method of repression defeats itself, by causing the creation of clandestine "agencies" which deliberately organise "sweeps" and similar pools with no other intention than that of cynically robbing their credulous dupes.

In this state of affairs it has been decided to inaugurate a model Derby Sweep, and the Editor of John Bull has been invited to appoint a committee to supervise the whole affair, and also to be personally present at the Draw. This he has consented to do, subject to the following conditions:—

No. 1.—That the whole amount of the prizes (£10,000) *shall be deposited with a Bank of first-class standing;*

No. 2.—That the drawing shall be conducted under precisely similar conditions as those which govern the drawings for prizes of the Paris Municipal Bonds, Credit Foncier, and other institutions under State Control in France.

No. 3.—That the tickets shall be of the popular price of 2s. 6d. each.

No. 4.—That 10 per cent. of the prize money (£1,000) *shall be distributed amongst deserving charities in England—under the direction of the Editor.*

These conditions having been agreed to, the Sweepstakes will be called the John Bull Derby Sweep, and any further information can be obtained from Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, 22nd February, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

S'THERN LEAGUE—2ND LEAGUE—F.A. CUP 3RD ROUND*

Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Year's Result.	JOHN BULL	Lilly's Weekly.	London mail.	Umpire.	Sunday Chron.cle.	Weekly Dispatch.	News of the World.	Brist.l Sporting Illus.
Reading v. Blackburn R.	A.	Draw	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Away	Draw	Draw
Liverpool v. Newcastle Un.	—	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw
Bristol R. v. Everton	—	Home	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Draw	Draw
Sunderland v. Swindon	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Aston V. v. Crystal P.	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Burnley v. Middlesbro'.	—	Home	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Bloom A. v. Manchester U.	—	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Draw
Bradford P. A. v. Sheffield Wed.	—	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Draw
Birmingham v. Hull C.	B'gham won	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Blackpool v. Lincoln C.	No Match	Draw	—	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Home
Bristol C. v. Glossop	Bristol won	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Bury v. Leicester F.	No match	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Fulham v. Wolverhampton	Draw	Home	—	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
Grimsby T. v. Stockport C.	Draw	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Notts F. v. Clapton O.	Notts won	Home	—	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
Leeds C. v. Preston N. E.	No Match	Away	—	Draw	Away	Away	Draw	Away	Draw
Brentford v. Millwall A.	Draw	Away	—	Draw	Away	Home	Draw	Home	Draw
Gillingham v. Portsmouth	No Match	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Southampton v. Brighton and H.	Brighton won	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Home
Hull v. Merthyr T.	No match	Away	—	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
Plymouth A. v. Coventry C.	Plymouth won	Home	—	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Norwich City v. Exeter C.	Draw	Home	—	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Northampton v. Queen's P. R.	North'pton won	Draw	—	—	—	—	Away	—	Home

*Note—F.A. Cup. Home signifies first mentioned team to win—Away second mentioned team to win.

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The following claims have been received in respect of our issues of January 18th, January 25th and February 1st:—

SERG. CHARLES WAKEFIELD, 2nd Royal Irish Rifles, Tidworth, Wilts. January 18th. No. 677,666.

THOS. HARWOOD, Esq., 49, Constantine Road, Colchester. January 25th. No. 656,875.

EDWARD TUPPER, Esq., 70, Upper Richmond Road, East Sheen, S.W. February 1st. No. 545,207.

EDWARD W. WATSON, Esq., 35, Murray Street, New North Road, Hoxton, N. February 1st. No. 306,211.

THOS. C. MOCKFORD, Esq., Welcome Club, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. January 25th. No. 329,991.

CHAS. HEMBROUGH, Esq., 216, Humberstone Road, Plaistow, E. February 1st. No. 474,916.

A. E. ELWORTHY, Esq., 122, Elm Road, Malden, Surrey. February 1st. No. 346,873.

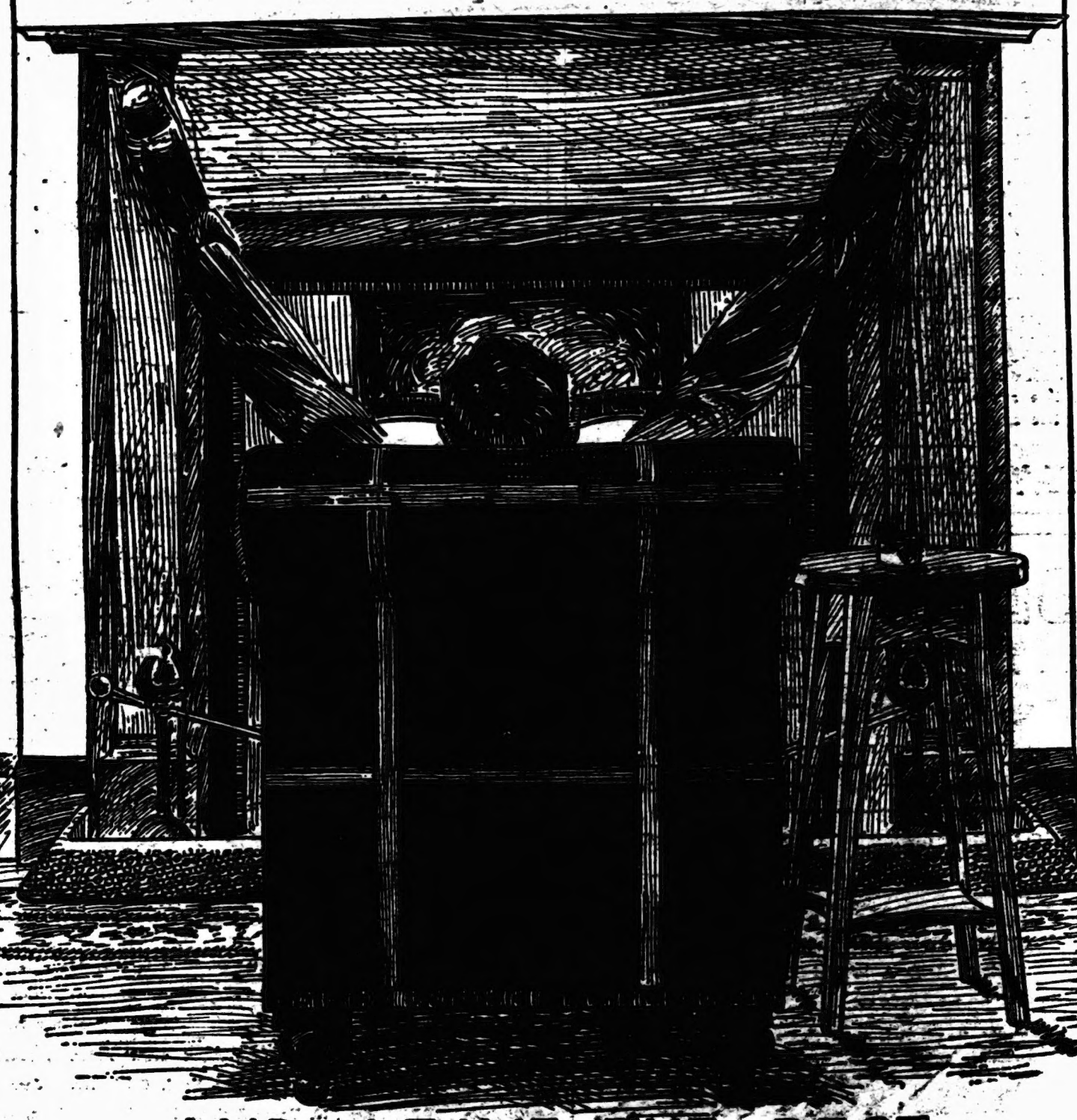
S. R. COBB, Esq., 29, Honiton Road, Romford, Essex. February 1st. No. 189,435.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of February 15th:—

262	205586	360830	570248	748984
20224	212440	393046	599919	766946
48877	227169	412206	630764	772795
58938	244573	444290	654405	807894
83497	262939	453824	661220	823329
125894	271673	478210	681560	841819
138752	279538	494363	691701	859972
155022	301724	527961	707152	868054
176757	330967	550031	715771	876592
187257	350789	560724	736484	879512

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 26TH).

IF YOU NEED A REST, TAKE A REST.



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